



# County Borough of Eastbourne.



## ANNUAL REPORT

For 1923 on the

# *Health of Eastbourne*

VITAL STATISTICS, SANITARY WORK, etc.

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EASTBOURNE:

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# Public Health Department, 1923.

## SANITARY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1922-1923.

\*Mr. Alderman MARTIN, *Chairman*.

\*Mr. Councillor HOLLINS, *Deputy-Chairman*.

*The Mayor* (Mr. Councillor GILBERT B. SODDY, J.P.).

*Mr. Alderman BREACH.	*Councillor Miss HUDSON.
*Mr. Alderman J. PRIOR, J.P.	Mr. Councillor MARSHALL.
*Councillor Miss CHAMBERLAIN.	Mr. Councillor PHILLIPS.
Mr. Councillor HODGSON.	Councillor Miss THORNTON.
Mr. Councillor THORNTON.	

\*Members of the Hospitals and Tuberculosis Sub-Committee.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE.

Councillor Miss HUDSON (*Chairman*).

Councillor Miss CHAMBERLAIN (*Deputy-Chairman*).

Alderman Sir CHARLES O'BRIEN	Mr. Alderman SIMMONS.
HARDING, J.P.	Mr. Councillor HOLLINS.
Mr. Alderman MARTIN.	Councillor Miss THORNTON.
Mr. Councillor THORNTON.	

Mrs. PARRISS.	} <i>Co-opted Members.</i>
Mrs. STREATFEILD.	

## STAFF, 1923.

*Medical Officer of Health :*

W. G. WILLOUGHBY, M.D., Lond., D.P.H., M.R.C.S., etc.

*Assistant M.O.H. :*

Miss E. H. B. COGHILL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.F.P.S.

*Sanitary Inspectors :*

E. G. SPEARS, Cert. S.I.

J. H. OLLETT, Cert. S.I., R.P.C.

S. R. HENDERSON, Cert. S.I.

*Borough Analyst :*

Dr. S. ALLINSON WOODHEAD, F.I.C., LEWES.

*Health Visitors, etc. :*

Miss R. CLARK (1909).	Miss L. M. THOMAS
Miss I. SIMMONS (1918).	(till 23rd October, 1923).
Miss M. L. RICHNELL (1918).	Miss L. CURTIS
Mrs. L. FORWARD (1922).	(24th October, 1923).

*Clerks :*

H. T. HOUNSOM (Chief Clerk).	Miss M. G. BENEY.
A. H. HOOKHAM.	E. YATES.
Miss M. FRY.	

*Disinfecter, etc. :* R. GAY.

## County Borough of Eastbourne, 1923.

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SITUATION.—Latitude, 50° 46' N. ; Longitude, 0° 17' E.

ELEVATION OF THE AREA BUILT OVER.—Varies from 140 feet above (at the West End) to 4 feet below high water mark (in East of the Borough).

SLOPE.—From West to East. ASPECT.—South and South-East.

AREA.—Of the Borough, 6833 acres, including foreshore 332 acres ; of the part built over, about 2300 acres.

DENSITY OF POPULATION.—For the Borough, 8 persons per acre ; for the part built over, about 28.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES.—At census of 1891, 5,190 ; at Census of 1901, 7,088 ; at Census of 1911, 8,967 ; at Census of 1921, 10,083.

POPULATION.—Census (1891), 34,960 ; Census (1901), 43,344 ; Census (1911), 52,542 ; Census (1921), 62,028.

RATEABLE VALUE.—£511,016.

GENERAL DISTRICT RATE, 4s. 8d. BOROUGH RATE, 4s. 8d.  
Total, 9s. 4d.

BIRTH-RATE.—13.3 per 1,000. England and Wales, 19.7.

DEATH-RATES.—Nett death-rate, 9.7 per 1,000. England and Wales, 11.6.

Nett Infantile Mortality, 38 per 1,000 births.  
England and Wales, 69.

MEAN ANNUAL TEMPERATURE.—50.6 degrees Fahr.

HOURS OF BRIGHT SUNSHINE.—1,869.4 hours,

TOTAL RAINFALL.—35.85 inches.



*To His Worship the Mayor and to the Aldermen and Councillors  
of the County Borough of Eastbourne.*

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MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, I beg to submit herewith my Annual Report on the Health of Eastbourne for the year 1923. The Report includes the vital statistics and the work of the Sanitary and Public Health Department for the year. It is the thirtieth similar Annual Report I have submitted to the Council.

The year 1923 was a very satisfactory one as regards general health in Eastbourne.

The Registrar General's report for 1923 on England and Wales, published in February, 1924, gave the following figures :—

Birth-rate.—England and Wales, 19.7 per 1,000 population ; Eastbourne, 13.8.

General Death-rate.—England and Wales, 11.6 per 1,000 population ; Eastbourne, 9.2.

Infantile Mortality Rate.—England and Wales, 69 per 1,000 births ; Eastbourne, 38.

The same report shows that the death-rate of Eastbourne was the fourth from lowest of all County Boroughs, though 7 of the London Suburban Districts had lower rates ; the infantile mortality rate was absolutely the lowest of all the County Boroughs and great towns except one, which had an equal rate to that of Eastbourne.

The birth-rate of 13.8 and the death-rate of 9.2 is calculated on a population about 13% less than the Census figures, the Registrar General having considered there were non-residents to that extent in the Borough at the time of the Census of 1921.

In the same report, deaths in Eastbourne from the following diseases are quoted as follows :—

Enteric Fever	..	None.
Measles	..	None.
Scarlet Fever	..	None.
Whooping Cough	..	One. (Seventh from the lowest of the 105 quoted).
Diphtheria	..	None.
Influenza	..	Nine. (Nineteenth from the lowest of the 105 quoted).
Enteritis (under 2)	..	One. (Third from the lowest of the 105 quoted).

Other diseases are not quoted comparatively.

Details as to these and other causes of death will be found in the report now submitted, but I have made these abstracts from the Registrar General's report, as they are such striking testimony to the value of the forward policy of the Sanitary and Public Health Authority of Eastbourne, and especially in the direction of Maternity and Child Welfare.

Though other factors have to be considered in the reduction of sickness and mortality, the broad view of Public Health responsibility taken by the Authority remains the principal factor. The great improvement of recent years has taken place in spite of increased over-crowding and unemployment. Climatic conditions remain the same as in former years, when such good results were not obtained.

Though sickness figures cannot be given, it is obvious that sickness and death are to a great extent in proportion, and that if deaths are prevented then a much greater amount of sickness must also be averted.

While the above account is so far most satisfactory, there are unfortunately other items that will be noted with concern.

Tuberculosis shows only a slight decrease during the year, the cases of which we know are only two less than at the close of the preceding year. This may be partly accounted for by the increased efforts in 1923 to get all cases notified.

Cancer continues to increase here as elsewhere. This is partly due to the longer lives people now live owing to the decrease in deaths that used to occur at earlier ages. A reference to the account of cases of cancer will show that many occurred quite late in life.

The comparatively large figures as to heart disease and bronchitis must be read in age groups. Many deaths ascribed to these diseases are in the cases of very old people and denote the wearing out of old age.

Housing is still the most serious adverse factor we have to deal with and the most persistent efforts of the Housing Committee are only very gradually lightening the outlook. Difficulties occur in all directions and the most sad are the cases of families with children. However much one may theoretically believe in private ownership, if, as is the case, private owners feel that they must in their own interests refuse to let houses to persons having young children, then there is no alternative to State Housing until there is again a surplus of houses.

Again and again during the year I have had cases where the children, and especially the prospect of a new one coming, have been the cause of notices to leave being given to parents. Except in the cases of Municipal houses, parents hear objections being made to their having young children almost as if it were some serious offence.

In Municipal houses it has been the rule so far that there must be at least two children, and the larger number the better chance of an applicant getting a house. This has, I know, resulted in loss of money in rent to the Municipality, but the good results mentioned in the beginning of this Introduction are due in some degree to this policy and the apparent loss of money has been more than made good in other ways.

Unemployment is another serious adverse factor that has to be contended with, and, in view of this, if we are to continue to have such satisfactory mortality rates, the work of the Public Health Department cannot be abated in any direction, but must be even added to as the Borough develops.



As an indication of the extent the Department is used, I may mention the following figures of visits made during the one year 1923 to the Public Health Department at the Town Hall, besides visits to other Centres :—

General Calls	..	..	..	..	7542
Maternity and Child Welfare	..	..	..	..	4439
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	1500
Other Diseases	..	..	..	..	3173
School Medical Service	..	..	..	..	7379
					<hr/>
Total	..	..	..	..	24033
					<hr/>

In addition, these visitors have frequently been accompanied by others.

It is obvious that to cope with this amount of work the staff has been busily employed, and I wish to record again my appreciation of the interested and efficient work of the staff during the year. Much of the actual detail of the assistance given by the various members of the staff cannot be adequately described. Mr. H. T. Hounsom has given me particular assistance in preparing this Report.

I am indebted to the members of the Medical Profession in Eastbourne for their kindness and consideration, and I beg to sincerely thank the members of the Council, and particularly of the Public Health Committee for their constant support.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. G. WILLOUGHBY,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

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### PHYSICAL FEATURES.

THE Borough of Eastbourne, situated in Lat.  $50^{\circ} 46'$  and Long.  $0^{\circ} 17. E'$  was incorporated in June, 1883. On April 1st, 1911, Hampden Park was added and the Borough became a County Borough.

The acreage is 6,833 ; of this 19 acres are inland water and 332 acres foreshore.

Only about one-third of the acreage is built over, the remainder is mainly Downs and agricultural land.

The Borough is situate on and at the foot of the Eastern slope of the South Downs. The highest point is 590 feet above sea level on the Downs ; the portion covered by houses varies from 150 feet above to 4 feet below sea level. The Downs shelter the town from the West and South-West.

The front of the town is open to the sea facing South and South-East, and this ensures a very large amount of sunshine, as is shown by the sunshine record.

One of the most satisfactory characteristics of Eastbourne is the large extent of the Borough compared with the number of its houses and population. The large extent and number of open spaces and gardens conduce to its healthiness.

With the large extent of free and open sea front along the South and South-East and the Downs on the South-West and West free and open to the public, Eastbourne is well provided with open space around it.

### GEOLOGY.

Geologically, there is much variation in the soil in the different parts of the Borough. Eastbourne is for the greater part on chalk, which is a very healthy sub-soil. There is a comparatively small amount of clay soil in the central part of the town, and a strip of upper greensand, which is narrow along the Grand Parade and widens as it passes from West to East to about Bourne Street, where it

narrows again until it ends about half-a-mile east of the Pier. The remainder of Eastbourne in the East is on alluvium and on the beach.

Of the Wards, Meads and St. Mary's are entirely on chalk, and Upperton almost entirely so. The Central and Eastern districts are to a small extent on chalk and greensand, but mainly on alluvium and shingle, with a little clay. Valley gravel covers the chalk and greensand in the valleys.

Hampden Park is on the alluvium just at the termination of the chalk.

#### METEOROLOGY AND CLIMATE.

Full details, and comparative tables, of the Meteorology of Eastbourne are given in the Annual Meteorological Report prepared by the observer, Mr. Hookham. Readings have to be taken every day throughout the year in all weathers, at 9 a.m., 5 p.m., and 9 p.m., Greenwich Mean Time, and this work is heavy, independently of the mathematical and clerical part of the duties. Eastbourne is a special Meteorological Station, and the department is kept in accord with the wishes of the Meteorological Office in London.

A daily telegram (including Sundays) at 5 p.m., conveys information to the Meteorological Office, and a similar telegram is also sent after the 9 a.m. observations on week-days, during the time that Summer Time is in force.

The Instruments in use are :—

1. Sunshine Recorder and Electric and Indicating Cup Anemometers at the Grand Hotel.
2. Rain Gauge, Carlisle Road enclosure.
3. Barometer at the Grand Parade Shelters.
4. Thermometers, Maximum, Minimum, Wet and Dry Bulb, in Screen, Earth (1ft. and 4ft.), Grass Minimum, Carlisle Road enclosure.
5. Sea Thermometer, the Pier.

We are obliged to the Grand Hotel and Eastbourne Pier Companies for kind permission to use their premises.

Summary for the year 1923 :—

Rainfall, 35.85 inches.

Number of days on which 0.01 or more rain fell, 195.

Highest recorded barometric reading, 30.674 inches (1038.7 millibars) on January 25th.

Lowest ditto, 28.943 inches (980.1 millibars) on February 8th.

Highest recorded temperature in the shade, 84 degrees on July 11th.

Lowest ditto, 25 degrees on November 26th.

Total amount of sunshine, 1869.4 hours.

Number of sunless days, 57.

Mean annual temperature, 50.6 degrees.

The proximity of the sea and the peninsular position of the Borough ensure equability of climate.

#### RAINFALL.

The rainfall for the year was 35.85 inches. Rain fell on 195 days. The rainfall was 5.10 inches above the average.

Rainfall, 1922	.. .. .	28.10 inches.
Year of lowest fall	.. .. 1921,	15.79 „
Year of previous lowest fall	.. .. 1901,	20.19 „
Year of highest fall	.. .. 1894,	38.54 „
Average rainfall, five years, 1881–1885..		31.05 „
„ „ 1886–1890..		29.22 „
„ „ 1891–1895..		32.27 „
„ „ 1896–1900..		29.48 „
„ „ 1901–1905..		27.20 „
„ „ 1906–1910..		30.86 „
„ „ 1911–1915..		34.59 „
„ „ 1916–1920..		32.26 „
Average rainfall, ten years, 1881–1890..		30.14 „
„ „ 1891–1900..		30.87 „
„ „ 1901–1910..		29.04 „
„ „ 1911–1920..		33.42 „
Average rainfall, 20 years, 1881–1900..		30.50 „
„ „ 1901–1920..		31.23 „
Average rainfall, 30 years, 1881–1910..		30.01 „
Average rainfall, 31 years, 1892–1922..		30.45 „
Average rainfall, 35 years, 1876–1910..		30.92 „
„ „ 1881–1915..		30.74 „
„ „ 1888–1922..		30.49 „
Average rainfall, 40 years, 1881–1920..		30.87 „



## TEMPERATURE.

The mean of the maximum temperature for the year was 55.6 degrees and the mean of the minimum temperature was 45.6 degrees, giving a mean annual temperature of 50.6 degrees.

The mean of the maximum temperature for the six Winter months was 49.2 degrees and of the minimum temperature 40.4 degrees with a mean temperature for these months of 44.8 degrees.

Average temperature—

	Mean of		
	Max.	Min.	Max. & Min. combined.
31 years, 1892–1922 ..	55.8	45.4	50.6
35 years, 1876–1910 ..	55.5	44.4	50.0
35 years, 1881–1915 ..	55.8	45.0	50.4
35 years, 1888–1922 ..	55.7	45.2	50.5

## SUNSHINE, 1923.

The amount of sunshine was 1869.4 hours and was the highest recorded for the United Kingdom; the average per day throughout the year was 5.12 hours or 0.24 hours above the average. The daily average varied from 9.03 hours in July to 1.97 hours in December.

Average sunshine—

	Daily average, hours.	Total hours.	Per cent. of possible.
25 years, 1886–1910 ..	4.89	1786	40
31 years, 1892–1922 ..	4.98	1820.8	41
35 years, 1881–1915 ..	4.88	—	40
36 years, 1887–1922 ..	4.92	1799.1	40

## WINDS.

Of the 1,095 total observations the prevailing winds during the year came from the West, with a total of 345 observations or 31.51 per cent.

The observations from the West and North-West totalled 573 observations or 52.33 per cent. and the observations from the East only totalled 64 or 5.84 per cent.

## SEA TEMPERATURE, 1923.

The monthly average sea temperature at the Pier Head was as follows :—

	1923.	Average, 1887-1922.		1923	Average, 1887-1922.
Jan. ..	42.5	42.2	July ..	62.0	62.3
Feb. ..	44.3	41.0	Aug. ..	63.3	63.5
Mar. ..	45.0	42.6	Sept. ..	59.3	61.1
April ..	48.8	46.5	Oct. ..	55.4	55.4
May ..	52.3	52.9	Nov. ..	47.2	49.7
June ..	55.4	58.5	Dec. ..	43.1	45.3

## POPULATION.

Local details of the 1921 Census have been recently published and some particulars as to the Eastbourne population are subjoined.

The enumerated population on the night 19th-20th June, 1921, was 62,028: Males, 24,864; and females, 37,164.

The increase since the 1911 Census was 9,486, and the increase from 1901 to 1911 was 8,968.

The increase from 1911 to 1921 was 18.1% and was made up as follows :—Gain by excess of births over deaths, 2,294; and gain by excess of immigration over emigration, 7,192, the gain in this latter respect being larger than the gain in any other unit of the County of Sussex, even including Brighton.

The excess of females over males in 1921 was 12,300; in 1911 it was 8,924. The number of females per 1,000 males in Eastbourne is 1,495, as compared with 1,274 for the County of Sussex. Sex percentages: Males, 40.1; females, 59.9.

The marital conditions of the respective sexes were as follows :—

			Males.	Females.
Total	..	..	24,864	37,164
Single	..	..	12,734	21,198
Married	..	..	11,266	12,411
Widowed	..	..	846	3,527
Divorced	..	..	18	28

The average age of males was 32, and of females, 35.1.  
In groups they were arranged thus per 1,000 :—

				Males.	Females.
Under 5	..	..	..	74	47
5—19	..	..	..	295	226
20—39	..	..	..	273	334
40 and over	..	..	..	358	393
				<hr/> 1,000	<hr/> 1,000
				<hr/>	<hr/>

At individual ages, there were more males aged 12 (666) and more females aged 17 (761) than at any other one age of life. Males exceed females in number up to 13 years and at succeeding ages are in an increasing minority.

In age groups the population was as follows :—

			Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 year	..	..	445	440	885
1—4 inclusive	..	..	1398	1310	2708
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total under 5	..	..	1843	1750	3593
5—14 inclusive	..	..	5327	4851	10178
15—24	..	..	3665	6781	10446
25—34	..	..	3433	6059	9492
35—44	..	..	3354	5991	9345
45—54	..	..	3071	5038	8109
55—64	..	..	2283	3592	5875
65—74	..	..	1372	2165	3537
75—84	..	..	461	808	1269
85 and over	..	..	55	129	184
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
			24,864	37,164	62,028
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Although the total population had increased by 9,486, the increase was made up principally by persons in the later years of life.

The increase or decrease in the early years was as follows :—

Under 1 year	..	..	110 increase.
1—4 inclusive	..	..	592 decrease.
5—14 inclusive	..	..	975 increase.

The age group 5—13 inclusive is the important one of school age of Elementary School children. At the 1921 Census, there were 9,038 children in this group, 5,089 boys and 3,949 girls.

From the Census figures I have compiled the subjoined table as showing the steady alteration in the age composition of the Eastbourne population :—

Age Group. Percentages.	Census, 1891.	Census, 1901.	Census, 1911.	Census, 1921.
Under 5      ..      ..	10.02	8.85	7.75	5.79
5—14      ..      ..	21.19	19.57	17.51	16.40
15—24      ..      ..	22.90	22.26	19.30	16.84
25—64      ..      ..	41.65	44.62	49.63	52.91
65 and upwards      ..	4.24	4.70	5.80	8.04

The rapid reduction of the proportion of the population in the early years of life is marked at each succeeding inter-Census period, but especially so during the years 1911–1921.

As mentioned in my previous reports, the Registrar General has for statistical purposes deducted from the total enumerated population a large number of persons described as visitors.

In the various Sussex resorts the proportion of the population described in the Census returns as visitors varied from 22.8% in Littlehampton and 13.6% in Eastbourne, Seaford and Bognor, 13.5% in Bexhill, 10.5% in Hastings and Worthing, and 5.4% in Brighton, down to 3.2% in a small rural district.

As regards Eastbourne, though these 13.6% were not registered as residents, there must be many whose deaths, etc., have to be included with those of Eastbourne and who have no permanent residence elsewhere, and are not strictly visitors in the ordinary sense. Hence in my opinion the rates given by the Registrar General's amended figures are unduly high, and the true rate would be given by an intermediate figure.



Following the usual custom, I have received from the Registrar General a figure estimated by his Department to be a fair one on which to base our Mortality and other rates for the past year, viz., a population of 53,900. This means a deduction of about 8,600 persons as non-residents.

I think rates calculated on a figure nearly midway between this one and the Census figure, say 58,000, would give true indications. The use of a low figure makes the rates apparently higher.

The total population in the middle of 1923 amounted to between 62,500 and 63,000.

#### OCCUPATIONS OF THE POPULATION.

MALES.—Total, 24,864 ; over 12 years of age, 19,521.

Number occupied, 15,445. Principal occupations :—

Commercial .. .. .	2611
Transport .. .. .	2207
Personal Service .. .. .	1267
Clerks .. .. .	1012
Metal Workers .. .. .	946
Professional .. .. .	837
Wood Workers .. .. .	791
Agricultural .. .. .	747
Building .. .. .	713

FEMALES.—Total, 37,164 ; over 12 years of age, 32,359.

Number occupied, 12,854. Principal occupations :—

Personal Service .. .. .	7836
Professional .. .. .	1262
Commercial .. .. .	1191
Clerks, etc. .. .. .	1032
Makers of Textiles .. .. .	778

#### HOUSING OF THE POPULATION.

Details as to this are given in the Housing Section of this Report.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### MARRIAGES.

There were 381 marriages registered in 1923. This is a marriage-rate of 14.1 per 1,000. In 1922 there were 422 marriages.

The average pre-war rate was 13.1 per 1,000. The highest recorded rate was 21.2 in the year 1915, and the lowest 11.32 in 1895.

### BIRTHS.

The births registered in Eastbourne in 1923 numbered 744, males 360 and females 384. To these must be added 14 births where the mothers were temporarily out of Eastbourne at the time of birth, and on the other hand 39 must be deducted of cases where the mothers were temporary residents only. Twenty-five births have therefore to be deducted from the total of 744, leaving 719 as the nett number of births, or a drop of 14 as compared with the previous year, and of 77 as compared with the year 1921.

The births in recent years have been as follows :—

Ten years, 1895–1904	..	average	916
Ten years, 1905–1914		average	879
Four years, 1915–1919	..	average	704
1920	.. .. .	.. .. .	993
1921	.. .. .	.. .. .	796
1922	.. .. .	.. .. .	733

The excess of the number of births over that of deaths in 1923 was 196 ; in 1922, 146 ; in 1921, 158 ; in 1920, 456 ; in 1919, 106 ; and in 1918, only 25 ; not including deaths of those on service.

The birth-rate calculated on the Registrar General's Office estimate of the population was 13.3 per 1,000.

In recent years the highest birth-rate was 21.8, in 1915, and the lowest 12.1, in 1918 and 1919.

The England and Wales birth-rate for 1923 was 19.7 per 1,000.

Of the 719 births, 45 were illegitimate, or 1 in 13.5.

Twenty-six of these infants were males and 19 females. The highest proportion was in 1918, when 1 in 7.8 were illegitimate.

The birth-rate is affected by the inability of young couples to obtain proper housing accommodation.

#### NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT.

Of the total births registered during 1923 all except 26 or 96.5% of the total were at once notified to the Medical Officer of Health ; the omissions were accidental in all cases.

Seven hundred and thirty-eight births were notified during the year, 356 being notified by midwives and 382 by parents and doctors ; 11 still births were notified.

#### DEATHS.

There were 551 deaths registered in Eastbourne in 1923. Of these, 74 were deaths of non-residents. Eastbourne residents to the number of 47 died elsewhere during the year. Including the latter and excluding deaths of non-residents, the nett deaths were as follows :—Males, 227 ; females, 297 ; total, 524. These figures have been verified by the Registrar General's Office.

The death-rate for 1923 was 9.7 per 1,000 on the Registrar General's Office estimate of 53,900.

The death-rates of previous years were :—

1895–1904	..	..	average	11.74	per 1000
1905–1914	..	..	average	10.58	per 1000
1915–1918 (War Years)			average	12.56	per 1000
1919	..	..	..	11.62	per 1000
1920	..	..	..	10.5	per 1000
1921	..	..	..	10.28	per 1000
1922	..	..	..	10.9	per 1000

The figures of recent years are really lower, since the population estimated by the Registrar General's Office is a low one.

The death-rate in the War years was higher, for deaths of those on service are not included.

The total death-rate for England and Wales in 1923 was 11.6 per 1000.

#### SEX MORTALITY.

The 524 deaths of 1923 were divided as follows :—

	Deaths.	Death-rate.
Males .. ..	227	10.5 per 1,000
Females .. ..	297	9.2 per 1,000

The deaths of females were in excess in all chief classes of disease except Urinary Diseases and Violence. In the Tuberculosis group they were nearly equal, and therefore in a higher proportion in males.

#### AGE MORTALITY.

The deaths in the various age groups were as follows. The death-rates are only approximate :—

	Persons.	Rate.
Under 1 .. ..	28	36.4 per 1,000
1—5 .. ..	15	6.3 per 1,000
5—15 .. ..	5	0.56 per 1,000
15—25 .. ..	14	1.5 per 1,000
25—65 .. ..	195	6.8 per 1,000
Over 65 .. ..	267	61.5 per 1,000

#### DEATHS OF NON-RESIDENTS.

These numbered 74 ; males, 39 ; females, 35. The principal causes of death were :—

Consumption .. ..	7
Cancer .. ..	14
Suicide .. ..	2
Heart Diseases .. ..	10
Apoplexy .. ..	8

#### DEATHS IN INSTITUTIONS.

	Residents.	Visitors.	Total.
Isolation Hospital .. ..	2	1	3
Princess Alice Memorial Hospital ..	32	15	47
Guardians' Institution .. ..	51	10	61
Leaf Hospital .. ..	3	—	3
Gildredge Hospital (Tuberculosis) ..	12	1	13
9 Upperton Road (Infants' Home) ..	3	3	6
All Saints' Convalescent Hospital ..	1	3	4



DEATHS OF EASTBOURNE PERSONS IN INSTITUTIONS  
OUTSIDE THE BOROUGH.

Brighton C.B. Mental Hospital	..	..	..	..	17
East Sussex County Asylum	..	..	..	..	3
Consumption Hospital, Kensington	..	..	..	..	1
Infirmary, Leeds	..	..	..	..	1
St. Columba's Hospital, Hampstead	..	..	..	..	1
Cancer Hospital, Chelsea	..	..	..	..	2
Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle	..	..	..	..	1
The Infirmary, Farnham	..	..	..	..	1
St. John's Home, Oxford	..	..	..	..	1
Fountain Mental Hospital, Wandsworth	..	..	..	..	1
Ashford Cottage Hospital, Ashford	..	..	..	..	1
Peckham House, Camberwell	..	..	..	..	1
Claybury Mental Hospital, Ilford	..	..	..	..	1
					—
Total	..	..	..	..	32
					—

THE CAUSES OF DEATH IN EASTBOURNE IN 1923.

The table in the appendix shows the principal causes of death in 1923 at various ages. Those diseases, etc., causing most deaths were as follows:—

			Number.	Net Death-rate.
Heart Disease	..	..	86	1.6 per 1,000
Apoplexy	..	..	63	1.1 per 1,000
Cancer	..	..	70	1.3 per 1,000
Males	..	..	25	0.46 per 1,000
Females	..	..	45	0.83 per 1,000
Tuberculosis (all forms)	..	..	47	0.87 per 1,000
Pulmonary	..	..	38	0.70 per 1,000
Non-Pulmonary	..	..	9	0.16 per 1,000
Respiratory Diseases	..	..	70	1.3 per 1,000
Bronchitis	..	..	38	0.70 per 1,000
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	26	0.48 per 1,000
Urinary Diseases	..	..	27	0.50 per 1,000
Violence	..	..	23	0.42 per 1,000
Males	..	..	15	0.28 per 1,000
Females	..	..	8	0.15 per 1,000

Of the 524 deaths, Heart Diseases caused about 1 in every  $6\frac{1}{2}$ ; Cancer, 1 in  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; Respiratory Diseases, 1 in  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; Tuberculosis, 1 in 11. Of the 23 deaths from Violence, 7 were from accidents and 16 were suicidal, an unusually large number. The first and second are the registered causes of death mainly in old persons.

The deaths from Cancer were of persons over 50 years of age, except in 7 cases. None occurred at an earlier age than 25, and the largest age group of these deaths was that from 65 to 75.

### DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

These diseases caused 2.8 per cent. of the total deaths. The 6.3 per cent. of 1921 was the lowest previously recorded, the absence of Zymotic Diseases in 1923 being remarkable. In 1899 the percentage was as high as 24.0.

The 15 deaths were caused by the following diseases :—

Influenza	..	4	Syphilis	..	..	1
Whooping Cough		1	Erysipelas	..	..	1
Dysentery	..	3	Other septic diseases			2
Diarrhœa	..	3				

The absence of Diphtheria, Puerperal Fever, Scarlet Fever, Measles and other Zymotics is noticeable.

### INQUESTS.

Coroners' inquests were held on 23 deaths.

### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The nett number of deaths of infants, that is of children under one year of age, was 28 (males, 14; females, 14).

Infantile mortality is calculated on the number of births in the same period, and for 1923 was at the rate of 38.94 per 1,000 births. This is by a long way the lowest infantile mortality rate since records have been kept.

The following table compares this mortality with those of the previous ten years :—

Year.		Deaths.		Mortality Rate.
1913	..	60	..	69
1914	..	50	..	59
1915	..	76	..	98
1916	..	72	..	89
1917	..	54	..	88
1918	..	50	..	74
1919	..	39	..	57
1920	..	59	..	59.8
1921	..	60	..	75.4
1922	..	33	..	44.9

Average of 10 years .. 52.3 .. 67.41

In the closing years of the last Century, 1898, 1899 and 1900, the mortality rates were 139, 145 and 121 respectively.

The subjoined table shows the causes of death and the ages at death of the infants who died. The reduction in mortality of infants in recent years has been mainly of those in the later months of the first year. Ante-natal work is very important to stop the deaths in the first few days of life, and this work has been considerably extended in 1923.

There were three deaths of illegitimate children. The comparative mortality rates of these and of legitimate children are as follows:—

Legitimate infants mortality rate 37 per 1,000 births.

Illegitimate infants mortality rate 66 per 1,000 births.

The figures are too small for too much reliance to be placed on comparative death-rates, but it is striking that the illegitimate Infantile Mortality is so low. We are entitled to consider that an important cause of this is the careful work in connection with unmarried mothers and their infants that has been so extended of late years in this Borough.

Throughout England and Wales the illegitimate rate is about double the legitimate.

The infant mortality rate for England and Wales in 1923 was 69 per 1,000 births, or 30.1 per 1,000 births more than that of Eastbourne.

The steps taken to prevent Infant Mortality are detailed in the Maternity and Child Welfare Section of this report.

## AGES AT DEATH OF INFANTS.

Causes of Death.	Total.	Under 1 wk.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Under 1 mth.	1-3 mths.	3-5 mths.	6-8 mths.	9-11 mths.
Diarrhoea ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Erysipelas ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Premature Birth ..	8	5	1	—	1	7	—	—	1	—
Congenital Defects ..	4	2	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Debility from Birth ..	4	3	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	—
Injury at Birth ..	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Broncho Pneumonia ..	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Other Respiratory Diseases ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Accidental ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Not Certified ..	2	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Total ..	28	12	3	2	1	18	3	3	2	2



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

### WATER SUPPLY.

The Eastbourne water is supplied by the Eastbourne Water Company. Mr. A. Wilkins, the General Manager, has kindly given me the figures relating to the quantity used.

The water is obtained from a deep well with a long heading in the chalk at Friston. The well, heading, and pumping station are four miles from Eastbourne and situated in a gathering ground, which is very suitable for the purpose, and the object of continuous care.

The heading connected to the pumping station is at a great depth, being in no case less than about 100ft. from the surface. The water is pumped from Friston into distributing reservoirs in the immediate neighbourhood of Eastbourne, but it is not stored in any case for more than a day or two. The reservoirs are up-to-date and covered. The supply is constant and at full pressure all the year round, irrespective of rainfall.

There is a subsidiary source of supply at Holywell. As far as quantity is concerned, very little water from any subsidiary source has been necessary. The amount in 1923 was 21 million gallons. Owing to building operations at Wannock the water from that source has been abandoned for domestic purposes.

Access to the sources is freely permitted to the Medical Officer, and my visits have satisfied me that every care is taken to prevent any accidental pollution.

For water from wells in chalk, the Eastbourne water has a comparatively small hardness, viz. : 11.5 grains per gallon or "degrees Clark." The average permanent hardness is 4.3 parts per 100,000.

Analyses of the water have been made constantly during 1923 with special full reports once monthly, alternately by the Borough Analyst and the Company's Analyst. Partial analyses are made weekly. These are, of course, important, but reliance is placed chiefly in keeping the sources unimpeachable. An example of the monthly report is attached.

For ordinary domestic purposes there is no need for any artificial softening of the Eastbourne water.

The amount of water pumped into Eastbourne for consumption from the various sources varied from  $18\frac{3}{4}$  million gallons per week to 12 million gallons per week, the average amount being about  $15\frac{1}{4}$  million gallons per week. This is approximately 32 gallons daily per person.

The quantity and quality of the water remain practically the same year by year. It is very satisfactory to have a source so comparatively independent of variations in the amount of rainfall.

FROM DR. S. ALLINSON WOODHEAD, F.I.C.

THE PUBLIC ANALYST'S LABORATORY,  
MOUNTFIELD HOUSE,

LEWES,

SUSSEX.

*December 7th, 1923.*

Report upon a sample of water forwarded by Dr. Willoughby, Medical Officer of Health, Eastbourne, on December 3rd, 1923 :—

Sample labelled :—"Eastbourne water from the Main, December 3rd, 1923."

The water on arrival had the following characteristics :—

Colour	..	..	None.
Smell	..	..	None.
Sediment	..	..	A mere trace of mineral matter.

Chemical Analysis afforded the following :—

	Grains per Gallon.	Parts per Million.
--	--------------------	--------------------

Total solids (dried at 100° C.)	..	21.4
Solids (after ignition)	..	12.0
Chlorine	..	2.55
Ammonia (free)	..	.010
Ammonia (albuminoid)	..	.020
Oxygen taken from permanganate in $\frac{1}{4}$ hr.	Nil.	
Oxygen taken from permanganate in 4 hrs.	Nil.	
Nitrogen as Nitrates and Nitrites	..	.22
Nitrites	..	Nil.
Hardness (total)	..	11.5
Hardness (after boiling)	..	4.9
Phosphates	..	Nil.
Metallic impurity	..	.. Trace of Iron.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

The organisms per cubic centimetre which grew on Nutrient Gelatine in three days at room temperature, under aerobic conditions, and were then visible to the naked eye as colonies, numbered 6.

On Agar at blood temperature, and under aerobic conditions, 2 colonies were noticed after two days incubation.

Examinations for organisms of the Coli group gave negative results.

#### REPORT.

The water maintains its very high degree of purity, and is quite safe for drinking purposes and domestic use.

(Signed) S. ALLINSON WOODHEAD.

## SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The Sewerage of Eastbourne is in the Department of the Borough Engineer.

The whole of the sewage, except some of that of the Infectious Diseases Hospital and some of the surface water, passes into the sea at Langney Point, some distance to the East of the Borough. Owing to the levels of a portion of the Borough, the fall is only natural at low tide ; at high tide some of the sewage has to be lifted by the aid of Shone's Pneumatic Ejectors.

In two parts of the town the local sewage has to be raised to the level of the main sewers by pneumatic ejectors—viz., in Compton Street and Bourne Street. The system works very well.

The dangerous part of the Infectious Diseases Hospital sewage is cremated at the Hospital.

The water-carriage system is practically universal in Eastbourne, the few exceptions being in connection with agricultural buildings in outlying districts.

The sewer ventilation is by high upcast shafts ; all road level ventilators have been closed.

The system of intercepting traps between the house drains and the sewers is universal.

There are outfalls on the sea front for surface water.

Many houses are drained by means of iron drains in place of stone-ware.

The surface water system is in many parts separate from the ordinary sewer system, so that rain water shall not cause the lower parts of the Borough to be flooded in sudden storms.

At the outfall, screening has been adopted for removal of solid matter.

## SCAVENGING.

House refuse is collected by the Corporation and, except that of the Hampden Park District, is then burnt at the



Destructor. The arrangements are made by the Borough Engineer.

Motor dust-vans are in general use.

In nearly all houses moveable covered ashbins are the receptacles used.

Fish offal is particularly offensive, and was formerly removed by the Corporation from 'fishmongers' shops daily, but these arrangements have ceased and the removal is not now so efficient.

Unfortunately the cost of the removal of garden refuse is so great that removal free was suspended in the course of the war. Removal is now only carried out when applied for and paid for. The cost of removal of house refuse during the past year was £9,468.

The collection is made once weekly all through the year with an incomplete second weekly collection during the summer months. Many larger premises have a more frequent periodical removal.

It is more important from a health point of view to have a second collection in the hot weather in small property, than in large houses.

#### SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

The following table shows the number and nature of the Sanitary Inspections during 1923. Many other casual visits were also made :—



RETURN AS TO GENERAL VISITS BY INSPECTORS IN  
ADDITION TO MANY CASUAL VISITS.

Visits of Inspection of :	East.	West.	Hampden Pk. and Uppert'n
Dwelling houses .. ..	1062	729	399
Schools .. ..	5	78	18
Stables and other Premises ..	371	1118	783
Cowsheds .. ..	11	118	98
Piggeries .. ..	46	85	29
Slaughter-houses .. ..	1067	670	2
Milk Shops and Dairies .. ..	123	203	110
Fruiterers' Shops .. ..	214	387	90
Fish Shops .. ..	1005	383	102
Butchers' Shops .. ..	1114	661	184
Other Food Stores .. ..	516	381	42
Bakehouses .. ..	67	73	14
Factories and Workshops .. ..	484	326	62
Work Places .. ..	190	587	720
Re-Inspections .. ..	1341	535	895
Complaints .. ..	347	96	90
Notification Visits .. ..	237	80	80
Houses disinfected .. ..	106	77	42
Bedding disinfected .. ..	95	91	43
Drains Tested .. ..	95	283	50
Soil Pipes Tested .. ..	30	132	11
Drains re-laid .. ..	41	7	36
Drains Ventilated .. ..	21	—	70
Total .. ..	8588	7100	3970

The statutory notices served during the year were as shown below with the results. These notices were only served after verbal notice failed, hence only a small proportion of the total work is included.

	No. Issued.	No. com- plied with.	No. lapsed. or can- celled.	No. out- standing.
<i>a</i> Public Health Act, 1875— Section 91 .. ..	149	138	2	9
<i>b</i> Public Health Act, 1875— Section 36 .. ..	142	131	2	9
<i>c</i> Public Health Act, 1875— Section 46 .. ..	6	6	—	—
<i>d</i> Public Health Act, 1875— Section 49 .. ..	—	—	—	—
<i>e</i> Public Health Act, 1875— Section 41 .. ..	10	3	—	7
Factory and Workshops Acts..	—	—	—	—
Housing & Town Planning Acts 1909 and 1919 .. ..	75	66	3	6
Totals .. ..	382	344	7	31

*a* To abate nuisances of various descriptions, including over-crowding.

*b* To provide proper closets, dustbins, etc.

*c* To cleanse, disinfect, etc., houses.

*d* To remove offensive accumulations.

*e* To relay drains.

SANITARY CERTIFICATES.—In connection with the Borough Sanitary Certificate the following work was done :—

New Certificates issued .. .. 28

Old Certificates endorsed after re-examination .. 25

The total number of these now issued is ..1692

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—There are 3 registered Common Lodging Houses in the Borough as follows :—

Langney Road, for men.

Tower Street, for men.

Latimer Road, for women.

The Latimer Road house is so much improved and so well kept as to be practically removed from this category.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—There are four licensed Slaughter Houses, viz. :—The Crumbles Slaughter House, Upwick Slaughter House, Latimer Road Slaughter House, Bourne Street Slaughter House. The last two are rarely used, owing to the fact that much of the meat consumed in Eastbourne is slaughtered just over the Borough Boundary at Langney. Arrangements have been made by which Messrs. Spears and Ollett inspect there also, nominally on behalf of the Rural District Council. Most of the unsound meat during 1923 was surrendered in connection with this outside inspection.

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.—A very large proportion of the houses in Eastbourne come under this heading at some part of the year.

UNDERGROUND SLEEPING ROOMS.—Regulations in connection with the Housing and Town Planning Acts have been made as regards these, and action has been taken in various cases. Owing to overcrowding and so much sub-letting, the conditions are not altogether satisfactory in this respect.

SCHOOLS.—The various Elementary Schools have been inspected from time to time. There are 15 of these Schools with 24 departments. Particulars as to Infectious Diseases in the Schools are to be found in the School Medical Officer's Report.

THEATRES AND OTHER PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.—A quarterly examination as to the sanitation of these premises has been carried out in 1923.

BAKE-HOUSES.—There are 30 bake-houses in the Borough, of which 8 are underground.

PREMISES RECEIVING CONSTANT INSPECTION AND ATTENTION  
DURING THE YEAR.

Number of Bake-houses	..	..	..	30
Number of Cowsheds	..	..	..	8
Number of Farm Yards	..	..	..	8
Number of Dairies and Milkshops	..	..	..	88
Number of Private Stables	..	..	..	118
Number of Livery Stables..	..	..	..	8

Number of Piggeries .. ..	46
Number of Common Lodging Houses ..	3
Number of Slaughter Houses .. ..	3
Number of Offensive Trades .. ..	0

## MILK SUPPLY.

Number of Wholesale Traders and Producers on Register .. ..	7
Number of Retail Purveyors on Register ..	81
Infectious Diseases among Employees ..	0
Infectious Diseases on Premises .. ..	0
Notice to Abate Nuisance .. ..	0

## RETURN AS TO STRUCTURAL ALTERATIONS.

Drains examined and tested .. ..	191
Drains re-laid and amended .. ..	140
Interceptors fixed .. ..	48
Drain ventilation improved .. ..	46
New W.C. apparatus provided .. ..	163
W.C. apparatus repaired .. ..	166
W.C. flushing power improved .. ..	135
D-traps removed .. ..	11
New soil pipes fixed .. ..	49
Soil pipe ventilators enlarged .. ..	19
New main taps provided .. ..	57
Waste pipes trapped .. ..	116
Sanitary dustbins provided .. ..	367
Back yards paved or repaired .. ..	70
Sinks renewed or repaired .. ..	137
New sink wastes .. ..	140
Safes provided under W.C. .. ..	31
W.C. cisterns fixed .. ..	57
Cleansing of premises .. ..	132

In addition to the tabulated amendments above, considerable attention has been given to the general improvement of structural conditions, especially with a view to preventing dampness. In 299 cases general repairs were carried out. Roofs, windows and damp courses received special attention.



FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES  
AND HOMEWORK.

I.—INSPECTION.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspection.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories ... .. (including Factory Laundries).	134	3	—
Workshops ... .. (including Workshop Laundries).	738	34	—
Workplaces ... ..	1497	5	—
Total ... ..	2369	42	—

II.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects			
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions.
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness ...	22	22	—	—
Want of ventilation ...	5	5	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..	1	1	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	2	2	—	—
Other nuisances ... ..	11	11	—	—
Sanitary accommodation insufficient.	6	6	—	—
Sanitary accommodation unsuitable or defective	37	37	—	—
Sanitary accommodation not separated for sexes.	2	2	—	—
Offences under the Factory & Workshop Act, excluding outwork.	—	—	—	—
Total ... ..	86	86	—	—

## III.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Underground Bake-houses (Sec. 101):—	
In use during 1923      ...      ...      ...      ...	8
	No. of    No. of Lists.    Workers.
Homework:—	
List of Outworkers received      ...      ...      ...	5      11
Workshops on the Register at end of 1923      ...	424
Bake-houses on the Register at end of 1923      ...	30
Total number of Workshops on Register      ...	454

**FOOD.****(a) MILK SUPPLY.**

The milk has been of very good quality on the whole. The following table shows the percentage of fats and solids in the samples taken for analysis, the presumptive standards for genuine milk being 3% for fat and 8.5% for solids respectively.

			Samples.	Average Fat.	Average Solids.
January	..	..	—	—	—
February	..	..	11	3.62	9.30
March	..	..	—	—	—
April	..	..	—	—	—
May	..	..	13	3.54	8.90
June	..	..	12	3.22	8.80
July	..	..	17	3.47	8.74
August	..	..	2	3.30	8.74
September	..	..	13	4.19	8.93
October	..	..	3	3.73	8.73
November	..	..	8	4.01	8.82
December	..	..	9	3.85	8.83
			—	—	—
Total	..	..	88	3.64	8.85
			—	—	—

There were 5 samples not up to the presumptive fat standard, of which particulars will be found on page 32.

The abortive results of legal proceedings for the sale of milk not up to the presumptive standard in previous years showed how hopeless the present state of the law is for the public protection. Two cases were taken into court in 1923 with the usual failure, owing to the state of the law on the subject.

**CERTIFIED MILK.**

Towards the end of 1922 the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, was passed, of which the principal feature is that the Local Authority may issue licenses for the

production and distribution of milk of four designations, viz. :—

- (i.) License to Producers of "Grade A" milk.
- (ii.) License to Distributors of "Certified" milk.
- (iii.) License to Distributors of "Grade A" milk tuberculin tested and "Grade A" milk pasteurised.

- (iv.) License to Distributors of Pasteurised milk.

The special designations under which milk may be sold are "Certified," "Grade A (Tuberculin tested)," "Grade A" and "Pasteurised."

Licenses to sell Certified Milk were granted during the year to six Purveyors of Milk in respect of ten premises.

Eleven samples were taken during the year from two Producers of Certified Milk, and forwarded to the Public Analyst for examination as prescribed by the Ministry of Health. Copies of the Analyst's reports are sent direct to the Ministry of Health, who certify the producers. On two occasions the milk from one producer failed to satisfy the Ministry's standard.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

Three samples of milk were submitted to the Analyst for bacteriological examination, and all found to be quite satisfactory.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM) REGULATIONS, 1912.

##### (1) MILK AND CREAM NOT SOLD AS PRESERVED CREAM.

	Number of samples examined for the presence of a preservative.	Number in which a preservative was reported to be present.
Milk.. ..	88	Nil.
Cream	10	2



## (2) CREAM SOLD AS PRESERVED CREAM.

(a) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statement on the label as to preservatives were correct :—

(i.) Correct statements made .. .. .	4
(ii.) Statements incorrect .. .. .	Nil
(iii.) Percentage of preservative found in each sample .. .. .	0.3, 0.18, 0.20, 0.10
Percentage stated on statutory label—	
Not exceeding	0.4
<hr/>	
Total .. .. .	4
<hr/>	

(b) Determinations made of milk fat in cream sold as preserved cream :—

(i.) Above 35% .. .. .	4
(ii.) Below 35% .. .. .	Nil
<hr/>	
Total .. .. .	4
<hr/>	

(c) Instances where (apart from analysis) the requirements as to labelling or declaration of preserved cream in Article V. (1) and the proviso in Article 5 (2) of the Regulations have not been observed .. Nil

(d) Particulars of each case in which the Regulations have not been complied with, and action taken.

*Two samples of cream, sold as pure cream, were found to contain preservatives. In each case the vendor was able to satisfy the Authority that it was a genuine mistake on the part of shop assistants, who had sold preserved cream in unlabelled containers. The vendors were cautioned to exercise more care in future.*

## (3) THICKENING SUBSTANCES.

Any evidence of their addition to cream or to preserved cream .. .. . Nil

## (4) OTHER OBSERVATIONS.

Nil.

## MILK (MOTHERS AND CHILDREN) ACT, 1918.

A review of the action taken will be found in the Maternity and Child Welfare section of this report.

## MILK (TUBERCULOSIS CASES).

Milk is the principal extra food given gratuitously to certain patients as set forth in the Tuberculosis section.

## (b) OTHER FOODS.

No other food calls for special remark. The quantity affected by Tuberculosis in 1923 was less than usual.

The surrenders of unsound food during the year were as follows :—

641lbs. Beef.  
 65 Bullocks' Livers.  
 6 Bullocks' Lungs.  
 1 Bullock's Heart.  
 1 Bullock's Tongue.  
 3 Bullocks' Heads.  
 6 Carcases of Pigs.  
 15 Pigs' Livers.  
 2 Pigs' Heads.  
 9 Sheeps' Livers.  
 7 6lb. Tins Corned Beef.  
 1 Goose.  
 8 Gallons Shrimps.  
 1 Box Herrings.  
 2 Tins Salmon.  
 6 Boxes Smoked Codlings.  
 17 Boxes Smoked Haddocks.  
 1½lb. Bacon.  
 180 Eggs.  
 15 Dozen Tins Condensed Skimmed Milk.  
 1 Barrel Pears.  
 3 Flats Tomatoes.  
 9 Baskets Potatoes.  
 50 Cartons Dates.

## SEIZED EXPOSED FOR SALE.

There were no seizures of food exposed for sale during the year and no prosecutions.

## MEAT, ETC., AFFECTED BY TUBERCULOSIS.

- 1 Carcase of Bullock.
- 9 Carcases of Cows.
- 2 Hindquarters Beef.
- 50lb. Beef.
- 13 Bullocks' Livers.
- 11 Bullocks' Lungs.
- 14 Bullocks' Heads.
- 3 Bullocks' Tongues.
- 1 Bullock's Heart.
- 1 Carcase of Pig.
- 3 Pigs' Heads.
- 1 Pig's Liver.
- 1 Pig's Lungs.
- 1 Pig's Heart.
- 1 Pig's Shoulder.

## SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The number of samples taken for analysis and the results are shown in the following table. The percentage returned as adulterated was 9.5.

## FORMAL SAMPLES.

Foodstuffs.	Sam- ples taken	Returned as	
		Genu- ine.	Adul- tera- ted.
Brandy .. ..	1	1	—
Butter .. ..	12	12	—
Cake, "Duchess" ..	1	1	—
Cake, "Genoa" ..	1	—	1
Cake, "Lemon" ..	1	—	1
Cake, "Madeira" ..	2	—	2
Camphorated Oil ..	3	3	—
Cheese .. ..	1	1	—
Cocoa .. ..	1	1	—
Cream, Fresh ..	10	8	2
Cream, Preserved ..	4	4	—
Epsom Salts .. ..	1	1	—
Ginger, Ground ..	1	1	—
Golden Syrup ..	1	1	—
Jam .. ..	1	1	—
Lard .. ..	2	2	—
Margarine .. ..	3	3	—
Marmalade .. ..	1	1	—
Milk, New .. ..	88	83	5
Milk, Condensed ..	1	1	—
Mustard .. ..	1	1	—
Pepper, White ..	1	1	—
Rum .. ..	1	1	—
Sauce .. ..	1	1	—
Spice, Mixed ..	1	1	—
Sponge Cakes ..	2	1	1
Sponge Fingers ..	2	2	—
Sponge Sandwich ..	2	1	1
Suet, Chopped ..	1	1	—
Sulphur, Milk of ..	3	3	—
Sweet Spirit of Nitre ..	2	2	—
Vinegar .. ..	2	2	—
Whiskey, Scotch ..	1	—	1
Total .. ..	156	142	14



## INFORMAL SAMPLES.

Foodstuffs.	Sam- ples taken	Returned as	
		Genu- ine.	Adul- tera- ted.
Butter .. ..	1	—	1
Whey Butter .. ..	1	1	—
Total .. ..	2	1	1

The following table shows in what respect the samples returned as adulterated were not genuine, and the proceedings taken in respect of the same :—

## FORMAL SAMPLES.

Sample.	In what respect not genuine.	Action taken.
New Milk ..	Deficient in fat 1% ..	Vendor cautioned.
New Milk ..	Deficient in fat 16% ..	Legal proceedings taken. Case dismissed.
New Milk ..	Deficient in fat 15% ..	Legal proceedings taken. Case dismissed.
New Milk ..	Deficient in fat 2.6% ..	Vendor cautioned.
New Milk ..	Deficient in fat 5% ..	Vendor cautioned.
Cream, Pure	Contained .05 Boric acid	Satisfactory evidence furnished that this was in fact Preserved Cream, but inadvertently placed in unlabelled con- tainers.
Cream, Pure	Contained .09% boric acid	
Cake, . "Genoa"	Contained .04% boric acid	Vendor cautioned.
Cake, "Lemon"	Contained .01% boric acid	Vendor cautioned.
Cake, "Madeira"	Contained .01% boric acid	Vendor cautioned.
Cake, "Madeira"	Contained .02% boric acid	Vendor cautioned.
Sponge Sandwich	Contained .10% boric acid	Vendor cautioned.
Sponge Cakes	Contained .09% boric acid	Vendor cautioned.
Whiskey Scotch	Contained 1% excess water	Vendor cautioned.

## INFORMAL SAMPLES.

Sample.	In what respect not Genuine.	Action taken.
Butter ..	Contained 2.9% excess water	Formal samples taken from time to time.

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS, 1923.

No.	Offence.	Date of Hearing.	Result.
		1923	
1	*Selling milk deficient in solids not fat.	Jan. 15	Fined £2 and costs (£2 2s.)
2	*Selling British Wine containing 1.56 grains salicylic acid per pint.	Feb. 5	Case dismissed.
3	*Aiding and abetting No. 2	Feb. 5	Case dismissed.
4	*†Selling tinned beans containing copper compound equivalent to 2 grains per lb. copper sulphate.	Feb. 5	Case dismissed.
5	*Aiding and abetting No. 4	Feb. 5	Case dismissed.
6	Selling milk deficient in fat	Aug. 3	Case dismissed.
7	Selling milk deficient in fat	Aug. 3	Case dismissed.

\*Sample taken in 1922.

†In other parts of the Country similar prosecutions were successful. Uniform standards as to foodstuffs are badly required, and especially as to preservatives and colouring matter that may be added.

## FERTILIZERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1906.

The duty of taking samples under this Act devolved on the Sanitary Inspectors in 1922. The Borough Analyst was appointed Analyst under the Act.

The following is a list of the samples, together with the Analyst's report on the same, taken during 1923.

## FORMAL SAMPLES.

Feeding Stuff.	Analysis.			Satisfactory or otherwise.
	Oil.	Albuminoids.	Remarks.	
Maize Germ Meal	8.63	11.93	Not first class ..	Satisfactory.
Ground Oats	4.15	10.50	Under 5% cereal meal other than oats present.	Satisfactory.

## INFORMAL SAMPLES.

Feeding Stuff.	Analysis.			Satisfactory or otherwise.
	Oil.	Albuminoids.	Remarks.	
Maize Meal	2.60	18.37	Not maize meal, but a mixture of maize meal, biscuit meal, wheat, dari, and buckwheat.	Unsatisfactory.
Barley Meal	3.50	10.93	—	Satisfactory.
Ground Oats	3.61	11.37	Contained at least 10% cereal meal other than oats.	Unsatisfactory.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following diseases were notifiable in 1923 :—  
Under the Original Notification Act, 1889 :

Small Pox.	Cholera.	Enteric Fever.
Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Scarlet Fever.
Plague.	Typhus.	Continued Fever.
Relapsing Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	

By Orders since :

Tuberculosis (all forms).	Influenzal Pneumonia.
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Malaria.
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	Dysentery.
Acute Poliomyelitis.	Trench Fever.
Encephalitis Lethargica.	Acute Pneumonia.

Copies of this list were supplied to each Medical Practitioner.

### NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1923.

	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	No. Isolated.	Deaths of notified Cases.
Scarlet Fever ..	13	17	30	28	—
Diphtheria .. ..	9	24	33	33	1
Enteric Fever ..	1	1	2	2	—
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	4	3	7	3	1
Acute Primary Pneumonia	12	8	20	1	5
Erysipelas .. ..	7	8*	15*	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	5	5	1	—
Malaria .. ..	3	3	6	—	—
Dysentery .. ..	1	—	1	—	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	5	1	6	6	—
Totals ..	55	70	125	74	8

\* One female case was notified twice, the number of persons being 7.



The notifications of Tuberculosis are dealt with separately under that heading later in this report.

A notable absentee from the above list is Puerperal Fever. As a rule there have been one or two cases of this disease.

On the other hand, five cases of Encephalitis Lethargica, or "Sleepy Sickness" occurred, four of them in one family, the other, a visitor, a male of 18. All of them recovered without apparent ill effects. A sixth case was notified, a male of 20. The diagnosis eventually was Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis, and this patient is still partially paralysed.

The four cases in one family were in children aged 13, 12 (boys), 10 (girl) and 8 (boy). The dates of notification were July 17th, 17th, 18th and 20th. Such an unusual occurrence led to a visit from the Ministry of Health and the full details of the cases are set out in the Report of the Chief Medical Officer of the Board of Education, dated 1923.

The careful observance of their children by the Heads of Christ Church and of St. Joseph's Mixed Schools led to the first two cases being sent to the School Clinic.

No case of Small Pox was notified, but on a few occasions I was called in to assist in diagnosis in what seemed to be suspicious cases, especially of Chicken Pox. Many ship passengers who had been in contact with Small Pox and other cases were notified to the Department from the various Ports of the Kingdom, and were kept under observation until the close of the respective incubation periods.

## MONTHLY SUMMARY OF NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Month.	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Enteric Fever.	Dysen- tery.	Inf. Pneu- monia.	Pneu- monia.	Ery- sipelas.	Ophth. Neon.	Malaria.	Enceph- alitis Le- thargica
January ..	2	1	—	—	2	2	1	—	—	—
February ..	6	2	—	—	2	1	—	2	—	1
March ..	2	3	—	—	1	3	1	1	—	—
April ..	3	8	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
May ..	3	5	—	—	—	3	4	—	—	—
June ..	2	3	—	1	1	4	1	—	1	—
July ..	3	2	2	—	—	—	2*	1	—	3
August ..	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	4	2
September ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
October ..	4	6	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
November ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
December ..	1	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	30	33	2	1	7	20	15	5	6	6

\* Includes second notification of previously notified case.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES—TEN YEARS' AVERAGES.

## NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS.

	Scarlet Fever.		Diphtheria.		Enteric Fever.	
	Notifi- cations.	Deaths.	Notifi- cations.	Deaths.	Notifi- cations.	Deaths.
1922 ..	64	1	25	1	4	2
1921 ..	74	1	118	4	4	1
1920 ..	113	2	78	3	3	—
1919 ..	179	2	61	2	2	—
1918 ..	34	1	37	2	—	—
1917 ..	46	—	76	1	4	2
1916 ..	142	1	118	6	6	1
1915 ..	169	1	135	12	4	—
1914 ..	79	—	141	8	3	—
1913 ..	213	2	132	11	4	2
Totals	1113	11	921	50	34	8

Average for 10  
years .. 111.3      1.1      92.1      5.0      3.4      0.8

## SCARLET FEVER.

The 30 cases were of a mild type and the patients recovered without ill effects. The number is the smallest recorded since reports have been issued and is 81 below the average for the past ten years.

This freedom from Scarlet Fever infection is the more marked in that of the 30 patients that were notified eight were from two houses and six were visitors.

Two cases were not removed to Hospital, one a doubtful case and the other that of an old lady in a large house where isolation could be easily carried out.

## DIPHTHERIA.

The Diphtheria cases, though amounting to 33 in number, were all except five from one Institution, receiving patients principally from London, from whence the disease was introduced. Locally, therefore, there were but five cases, an extraordinary drop from the average for the previous ten years of 92.

This phenomenon is the most striking feature of the year's infectious diseases history. In 1922 there were 25 cases and in 1921, 48 cases. It is difficult to account for this immunity, for it was not shared to anything like such an extent elsewhere.

All the cases were isolated at the Borough Hospital.

One patient, a non-resident, died, the mortality being, therefore, at the rate of 3 per 100, which is very low, the type of case that did occur being very mild.

## ENTERIC FEVER.

There were two cases of Enteric Fever, one notified on July 2nd (a boy, aged 8) and one on July 24th (a girl, aged 12). Both were Paratyphoid-B cases and in each case the patient was in good surroundings and well cared for. The cases were in different parts of the Borough, of different social status and had nothing apparently in common.

Exhaustive enquiries failed to trace the source of infection in either case. The patients were removed to Hospital and recovered.

## PUERPERAL FEVER.

No case occurred. A patient from the country died in the General Hospital from a two months' miscarriage; in the Death Certificate Puerperal Septicæmia was mentioned.

## MALARIA.

In five of the six cases the disease was a recurrence of Malaria contracted in W. Africa, Burmah, Bulgaria, E. Africa and E. Indies. The sixth case was that of an infant, aged seven weeks, whose mother, one of the above five cases, had Malaria, a recurrence of disease contracted in Burmah.



## DYSENTERY.

The one case notified was that of an infant recently arrived from Port Said.

## CEREBRO SPINAL MENINGITIS.

A patient from the country, who was brought to the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital, was said to have this disease and was removed to Polegate, where death occurred.

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Five cases occurred as follows, three being in Midwives' practice :—

Age Group.	No. of Cases Notified	Treated.		Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
		At Home.	In Hospital.				
Under 1 year.	5	4	1	5	—	—	—

## THE NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The most important of these are Measles, Whooping Cough, and Infantile Diarrhœa.

There were no serious epidemics of these diseases and the deaths registered were as follows :—

Measles	..	..	..	0
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	1
Diarrhœa	..	..	..	3

There were some cases of Mumps and many of Chicken Pox amongst school children. There were 23 cases of Ringworm reported.

## LABORATORY WORK.

## WATER.

Analyses by Borough Analyst including Bacteriological	7
Ditto by Company's Analyst .. .. .	8
Weekly by Medical Officer of Health (partial only) ..	52

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria for Practitioners ..	25	311	336
Diphtheria for Sanatorium ..	6	78	84
	—	—	—
	31	389	420
	—	—	—
Tuberculosis for Practitioners ..	30	119	149
Tuberculosis in Pensions Cases ..	23	71	94
Tuberculosis for Hospital ..	36	25	61
	—	—	—
	89	215	304
	—	—	—

Total Bacteriological Examinations, 724.

Pathological Examinations in Venereal Disease are set forth in that section of this Report.

## SCHOOL CLOSURE.

No schools were closed on account of infectious illness during 1923.

## ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

MEDICAL ATTENDANT.—Dr. W. G. WILLOUGHBY.

MATRONS.—Miss M. G. BAILEY.

## TABLE OF ADMISSIONS, 1923.

Disease.	In Hos- pital Jan. 1. 1923.	Ad- mitted.	Dis- charged.	Died.	In Hos- pital Dec. 31, 1923.
Scarlet Fever ..	5	29	33	—	1
Diphtheria ..	—	40	39	1	—
Enteric Fever ..	—	1	1	—	—
Typhoid Fever ..	—	1	1	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	—	1	1	—	—
Tubercular Meningitis	—	1	—	1	—

TABLE OF ADMISSIONS—*Continued.*

Disease.	In Hos- pital Jan. 1, 1923	Ad- mitted.	Dis- charged.	Died.	In Hos- pital Dec. 31, 1923
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	6	6	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	1	1	—	—
Chicken Pox ..	—	4	1	—	3
Measles .. ..	—	13	13	—	—
Diphtheria Carriers ..	—	3	3	—	—
Sore Throat ..	—	4	4	—	—
Mumps .. ..	1	2	3	—	—
Quinsey .. ..	—	1	1	—	—
Pneumonia .. ..	—	3	2	1	—
Influenza .. ..	—	1	1	—	—
Scabies .. ..	—	7	7	—	—
Nil (observation, mothers with babies and <i>vice versa</i> )	—	6	6	—	—
Conjunctivitis ..	—	1	1	—	—
Total ..	6	125	124	3	4

There are 62 beds in 7 separate blocks. Fourteen is the largest number of beds in any one block.

Altogether 125 patients were admitted, 42 males and 83 females.

The following table shows the number of admissions for each month of the year :—

Month.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.	Encephalitis Leihargica.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Nil (observ- tion) etc.	Influenza.	Scabies.	Pneumonia.	Mumps.	Quinsey.	Typhoid Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.	Tubercular Meningitis.	Sore Throat.	Diphtheria Carriers.	Chicken Pox.	Conjuncti- vitis.	Total.
January ..	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
February ..	5	2	10	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20
March ..	1	3	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
April ..	3	8	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16
May ..	4	7	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
June ..	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
July ..	3	3	—	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
August ..	1	4	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	12
September ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
October ..	4	9	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	18
November ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	6
December ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	5
Total ..	29	40	13	6	1	6	1	7	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	4	3	4	1	125



All cases of Diphtheria, and all cases of Scarlet Fever except two, which occurred in the Borough were admitted to the Hospital.

Two cases of Diphtheria were admitted from private schools at Seaford.

The average time the recovered patients who completed their stay in Hospital in 1923 remained in the Hospital, was as follows :—

	Days.
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	40
Diphtheria .. .. .	35
Enteric Fever .. .. .	35
Pneumonia .. .. .	25
Influenza .. .. .	8
Measles .. .. .	20
Chicken Pox .. .. .	19
Encephalitis Lethargica .. .. .	37
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .. .	16
Scabies .. .. .	13
Mumps .. .. .	16
Quinsey .. .. .	11
Typhoid Fever .. .. .	37
Sore Throat .. .. .	11
Diphtheria Carriers .. .. .	18
Conjunctivitis .. .. .	6
Nil (Observation cases, etc.) .. .. .	26

The Hospital, though used for many purposes throughout the year, had a very light year. The following were a few special points :—

#### CASES FROM ALL SAINTS' HOSPITAL.—

25 cases of Diphtheria (8 in April, 5 in May, 4 in August and 8 in October).

3 cases of Diphtheria Carriers (October).

2 cases of Scabies.

4 cases of Scarlet Fever.

3 observation cases.

—

37 cases in all.

—

# CASES FROM PRIVATE SCHOOLS AT SEAFORD.—

2 cases of Diphtheria.

# OUTBREAK OF MEASLES AT AN EASTBOURNE LADIES' SCHOOL.—

9 cases admitted in February.

CASE OF SUPPOSED CEREBRO SPINAL MENINGITIS only remained one day in Hospital. Admitted from Princess Alice Hospital and transferred to its own district (Polegate).

TWO FRENCH BOYS WITH SORE THROATS, from among the children received during the Summer from devastated districts in France.

The use of the Hospital for so many diseases involves the opening of many Wards and the services of many Nurses ; hence the expense of such a Hospital.

# LANGNEY HOSPITAL.

MEDICAL OFFICER.—Dr. W. G. Willoughby.

This Small Pox Hospital of 18 beds was kept in readiness, but not used, during the year. It was in the year 1902 that the last Small Pox case occurred.

# ACACIA VILLA.

This Isolation Cottage with accommodation for persons whose houses were being disinfected was used by 3 persons during 1923.

# COST OF THE INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITALS.

## THE SANATORIUM.

From April 1st, 1923, to March 31st, 1924, there were 3,925 "patient days." Each patient cost £9 2s. 2d. per head per week. Deducting the income from patients, the cost was £8 0s. 5d.

The above includes capital charges ; omitting these and deducting the income, the cost was £6 10s. 1d. per head per week. The cost of foods for patients and staff amounted to 13/10 per head per week.

LANGNEY HOSPITAL.—Nett cost, £511.

This Hospital was thoroughly repaired and put in order during the year. This cost £377 of the above sum.

ACACIA VILLA.—Nett cost, £36.

The total nett cost on the rates for these Hospitals was £5,047.

NOTE.—These estimated costs are calculated on actual expenditure up to near the end of the period and the Borough Treasurer's estimates for the remainder.

### DISINFECTION.

The methods of disinfection employed are the same as in previous years.

For clothing, bedding, etc., superheated steam (Temp. 260° F.) in a Washington Lyon Disinfecting Machine is used.

For articles such as furs, boots, etc., that will not stand superheated steam, washing with Formalin or other disinfectant solution is employed.

For rooms and houses, fumigation with Formalin Gas by means of various lamps is sometimes used, but more often, and especially in Tuberculosis, a sprayer is used for Formalin or other solution, such as Izal, McDougall's, or Lawes' Fluid.

Re-papering, re-painting, lime-washing, and much soap and water cleansing after the spraying or fumigation by the disinfectant gas are the methods chiefly relied on.

After Consumption, the usual form of disinfection carried out or suggested has been wet dusting by dusters wrung out of strong disinfectant, especially Formalin, Izal, etc., but general disinfection is done also. Disinfection after Cancer is also done on request being made, in the hope that it may be of some use in preventing spread.

The disinfection of infected houses or rooms is always done by the Sanitary Inspectors or one particular man in the Sanitary Department under their immediate instructions.

The schools have been disinfected by spraying from time to time.

The Steam Disinfector is situated in the Infectious Diseases Hospital grounds.

There is a second small disinfector for verminous clothing at the Children's Cleansing Station, Seaside.

Disinfection of rooms and of articles is carried out on application in various cases. A charge is made to cover the cost, unless the disinfection is in connection with Infectious Disease, and then it is free of charge.

### VENEREAL DISEASES.

CLINIC.—At the rear of the Town Hall. Opened 24th September, 1919.

Medical Officer : Dr. A. G. Shera, M.R.C.S.

Clinic hours : Men, 5 p.m., Wednesdays ; Women, 5 p.m., Mondays. Special times by arrangement.

The following table shows the number of cases treated during 1923, the figures in brackets being those for 1922. A large increase, especially in male cases, is shown. I think this is due to an increased appreciation of the Clinic rather than to increased prevalence of disease :—



	Males.		Females.		Total.		Grand Total.
	Old Cases.	New Cases.	Old Cases	New Cases.	Males.	Females.	
Syphilis ..	15 (12)	10 (13)	24 (15)	7 (15)	25 (25)	31 (30)	56 (55)
Gonorrhœa ..	3 (2)	12 (10)	1 (3)	2 (2)	15 (12)	3 (5)	18 (17)
Soft Chancre ..	— —	— (2)	— —	— —	— (2)	— —	— (2)
Other conditions ..	— —	28 (8)	— —	25 (25)	28 (8)	25 (25)	53 (33)
Total ..	18 (14)	50 (33)	25 (18)	34 (42)	68 (47)	59 (60)	127 (107)

Total attendances, 1,247 (828). Males, 791 (387); Females, 456 (441).

*In-patients.*—One man and two women were sent to the Lock Hospital, London. Aggregate in-patient days, 196 (105).

*Pathological Work.*—This was carried out at the Pathological Department, Princess Alice Hospital, by Dr. Shera. The following examinations were made:—

Nature of Test.	Number of Tests.	Fee per Test.	Cost.
			£ s. d.
For Detection of Spirochetes—			
For Treatment Centre ..	—	3/6	—
For Practitioners ..	—	3/6	—
For Detection of Gonococci—			
For Treatment Centre ..	40	3/6	7 0 0
For Practitioners ..	17	3/6	2 19 6
For Wassermann Reaction—			
For Treatment Centre ..	113	5/-	28 5 0
For Practitioners ..	52	5/-	13 0 0
Other Examinations—			
For Treatment Centre ..	—	—	—
For Practitioners ..	—	—	—
Total .. ..	222	—	51 4 6

The arsenobenzol compounds used in the treatment of syphilis were Novarsenobillon (N.A.B.), Stabilarisan, and Galyl, the latter chiefly for children. The dosage was regulated according to body weight, and was usually as follows:—As regards initial and final doses, N.A.B. 0.15 to 0.6 grammes; Stabilarisan, 0.15 to 0.45 grammes; Galyl, 2 to 10 centigrammes. In primary and secondary cases, two full courses of eleven doses with three weeks' iodides were given and three weeks' rest between. In tertiary cases two full courses and, if necessary, short courses of six N.A.B., etc., were given at three months' intervals, iodides being given preparatory to such courses for three to six weeks.

The tests applied before the discharge of patients were as follows :—In Syphilis cases, three monthly Wasserman tests for two years after the second course with a provocative dose at the end of the second year.

In Gonorrhœa (1) Normal diet and alcohol ; (2) Irrigation and instillation with silver nitrate ; (3) Urethrescopic examination ; (4) Bougies ; (5) Gonococcus proteose 1 cc. If there is no discharge or only light floating epithelial threads, without pus cells, after the first three tests, the case is discharged after prolonged treatment.

During the year arrangements have been made for irrigation when required.

Notices as to free treatment are posted in the various public lavatories, etc.

No medical practitioners have applied for free Salvarsan or substitutes, so that the question of qualification has not arisen, nor have these drugs been supplied. The Pathological examinations have been chiefly through the Council's Medical Officer, but in 69 instances at the request of private practitioners.

No action has been taken under the Venereal Disease Act, 1917.

Dr. Shera, calling attention to the large increase of work in 1923 (nearly 50%), mentions that this applies to the Pathological Department as well. He states that a very thorough attempt has been made to eliminate Gonorrhœa and the numbers given do not do justice to the work done.

The Department now dispenses its own medicines, instead of sending out prescriptions.

Dr. Shera praises the work of the Nurse (Miss R. Clark) and that of the Male Attendant (Mr. Tompsett).

# VACCINATION RETURN FOR EASTBOURNE DISTRICT, including Returns due to Ministry of Health February, 1924.

G. E. HODGES, *Vaccination Officer.*

Year.	Births.	Successful Certificates Registered.	Certificates of Insuscep- tibility Registered.	Had Small Pox.	Certificates of Exemption Registered.	Deaths under one year old.	Postponed by Medical Certificate.	Removed out of town and gone, no address.	Cases of Prosecu- tion under Sec. 31.	Un- accounted for.	Total number of Certificates of Success- ful Primary Vaccinatio- s at all ages received during each of last 14 years.
*1	*2	*3	*4	*5	*6	*7	*8	*9 & 10.		*11	*12
1909	977	203	4	—	435	68	14	102	4	147	214
1910	958	194	1	—	482	66	16	101	5	93	217
1911	948	169	—	—	449	69	24	101	8	28	236
1912	960	160	—	—	557	60	25	125	—	27	219
1913	930	165	1	—	549	50	12	111	—	42	289
1914	927	173	1	—	533	59	20	130	—	11	178
1915	832	164	—	—	465	71	15	94	—	23	179
1916	895	184	—	—	482	80	20	89	—	40	190
1917	703	159	—	—	387	61	10	86	—	—	190
1918	807	196	2	—	356	55	15	142	—	41	192
1919	750	171	—	—	338	35	8	88	—	10	250
1920	993	194	1	—	650	50	9	59	—	30	236
1921	811	168*	—	—	470	61	4	74	—	34	226
1922	744	114	—	—	466	22	2	48	—	92	252
1923	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	260

The numbers marked thus (\*) refer to columns in Official Returns to Local Government Board and Ministry of Health.

No primary or re-vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health in 1923 under the P.H. (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917,

The number of certificates of conscientious objection actually received by Vaccination Officer irrespective of the dates of birth of the children to which they relate during year 1923 was 459.



## TUBERCULOSIS.

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### NOTIFICATIONS DURING 1923.

Four hundred and twelve notifications were received, of which 206 were duplicates, leaving 206 as the number of persons notified as suffering from Tuberculosis. There were, however, only 173 new cases notified, for 33 of the 206 notifications were in respect of known cases which had not been technically notified previously.

Of these 206 persons, 149 had pulmonary consumption and 57 tuberculosis of glands, bones, etc.

Notifications by the Ministry of Pensions included 13 new cases, and 9 cases who were on the list of cases not technically previously notified, but of which we had knowledge.

Sixty-six of the notifications were of non-residents, for the most part temporary visitors.

The notifications were grouped as follows :—

#### Form A.—Medical Practitioners.

##### Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 159.

Males	..	..	..	92
Females	..	..	..	67

##### Non-Pulmonary, 57.

Males	..	..	..	33
Females	..	..	..	24

#### Form B.—School Medical Officers.

##### Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 3.

Males	..	..	..	2
Females	..	..	..	1

##### Non-Pulmonary, 2.

Males	..	..	..	—
Females	..	..	..	2

## Form C.—Institutions (Admissions).

## Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 88.

Males	..	..	..	42
-------	----	----	----	----

Females	..	..	..	46
---------	----	----	----	----

## Non-Pulmonary, 21.

Males	..	..	..	11
-------	----	----	----	----

Females	..	..	..	10
---------	----	----	----	----

## Form D.—Institutions (Discharges).

## Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 75.

Males	..	..	..	34
-------	----	----	----	----

Females	..	..	..	41
---------	----	----	----	----

## Non-Pulmonary, 7.

Males	..	..	..	4
-------	----	----	----	---

Females	..	..	..	3
---------	----	----	----	---

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412

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The table of deaths given later is a truer comparative index as to the prevalence of Tuberculosis, for deaths of visitors are eliminated and deaths of residents dying elsewhere are added to form the true total. The fallacy still remains that persons suffering from Tuberculosis die of other maladies and may be omitted from Tuberculosis deaths.

The importance of notification is that we can take the necessary steps as to care of the patient and prevention of the spread of the disease. Delay in notification is bad for both patients and the public.

The duplicate notifications are those on :—

Form A	..	..	..	..	15
--------	----	----	----	----	----

Form B	..	..	..	..	—
--------	----	----	----	----	---

Form C	..	..	..	..	109
--------	----	----	----	----	-----

Form D	..	..	..	..	82
--------	----	----	----	----	----

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206

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Excluding the duplicates, the sexes and ages of those notified were as follows :—

## (a) PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS, 149.

Ages.			MALES.		FEMALES.		Total.
			Form		Form		
			A.	B.	A.	B.	
0—1	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	..	..	—	—	1	—	1
10—15	..	..	—	2	3	1	6
15—20	..	..	5	—	2	—	7
20—25	..	..	5	—	12	—	17
25—35	..	..	26	—	21	—	47
35—45	..	..	22	—	14	—	36
45—55	..	..	19	—	4	—	23
55—65	..	..	6	—	5	—	11
65 and over		..	—	—	1	—	1
			83	2	63	1	149

## (b) NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS, 57.

Ages.			MALES.		FEMALES.		Total.
			Form		Form		
			A.	B.	A.	B.	
0—1	..	..	1	—	—	—	1
1—5	..	..	5	—	—	—	5
5—10	..	..	8	—	2	2	12
10—15	..	..	5	—	6	—	11
15—20	..	..	7	—	1	—	8
20—25	..	..	1	—	6	—	7
25—35	..	..	2	—	4	—	6
35—45	..	..	—	—	1	—	1
45—55	..	..	3	—	3	—	6
55—65	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
			32	—	23	2	57

The number of notifications received in 1923 is more accurate than in previous years, as to the number of new cases occurring.

During 1923 a circular was issued by the Ministry of Health to Medical Practitioners asking for more complete notifications. In other years there were many deaths from Tuberculosis recorded where the cases had not been notified during life. In 1923 there were but six instances of this and five related to persons belonging to the Borough, but living temporarily elsewhere.

## NON-PULMONARY CASES.

Localization of disease :—

*Males—*

Fingers .. .. 1 Age 1.  
 Glands of neck .. .. 8 Ages 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 13,  
 16 and 18.



Hip	..	..	..	2	Ages 4 and 52.
Meningitis	..	..	..	5	Ages 3, 6, 9, 12 and 18.
Spine	..	..	..	4	Ages 2, 14, 16 and 18.
Peritonitis and Mesenteric					
Glands	..	..	..	1	Age 9.
Cervical and Mediastinal					
Glands	..	..	..	1	Age 7.
Intestinal	..	..	..	1	Age 6.
Intestinal-Peritonitis	..	..	..	1	Age 11.
Peritonitis	..	..	..	2	Ages 13 and 16.
Abdomen	..	..	..	1	Age 18.
Testis. right	Leg	and	right		
Hand	..	..	..	1	Age 16.
Epididymis	..	..	..	1	Age 23.
Left Wrist—Tubercular					
Synovitis	..	..	..	1	Age 32.
Big Toe	..	..	..	1	Age 26.
Spine and Testis.	..	..	..	1	Age 46.
<hr/>					
Total	..	..	..	32	
<hr/>					

*Females—*

Meningitis	..	..	..	1	Age 6.
Peritonitis	..	..	..	1	Age 5.
Adenitis	..	..	..	1	Age 10.
Rib	..	..	..	1	Age 14.
Tuberculoma of Intestine	..	..	..	1	Age 12.
Glands of Neck	..	..	..	7	Ages 10, 11, 12, 13, 18, 21 and 24.
Spine	..	..	..	1	Age 22.
Tb. Abscess of Axilla	..	..	..	1	Age 21.
Knee	..	..	..	1	Age 22.
Hip	..	..	..	1	Age 21.
Appendix and Cœcum	..	..	..	2	Ages 29 and 35.
Tb. Salpingitis	..	..	..	1	Age 25.
Eye	..	..	..	1	Age 33.

Peritoneum and Mesentery	..	1	Age 49.	
Peritoneum	..	..	..	1 Age 52.
Cheek	..	..	..	1 Age 46.
Larynx	..	..	..	1 Age 26.
Both Ears	..	..	..	1 Age 9.
<hr/>				
Total	..	..	25	
<hr/>				

Position of the Borough as regards Tuberculosis at the end of 1923 :—

Cases at end of 1922 .. .. . 412

*Add—*

Notified cases previously removed from register,  
but since returned to Eastbourne .. .. 7  
Notifications on Form "A" .. 216

*Less—*

Duplicates .. .. 15  
Known cases at end of 1922 not  
notified until 1923 .. .. 33  
— 48

Total notifications of new cases during 1923 — 168

Notifications on Form "B" .. .. 5

Non-notified cases (deaths) .. .. 6

—  
598

*Deduct—*

Deaths of Tuberculous persons .. .. 58

Cases left the town (notified cases) .. 77

Cases in which disease arrested (notified  
cases) .. .. 44

Known, but not notified—

Cases left the town .. .. 7

Cases in which disease arrested .. 4

— 190

Total cases at end of 1923 .. .. . 408

Of the 206 patients notified, 66 were temporary residents  
There were seven deaths of temporary residents.

The following is a summary of the above cases :—

	MALES.			FEMALES.			Total.
	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	
Pulmonary	62	39	88	62	79	2	332
Non-Pulmonary	13	22	2	13	26	—	76
Total	75	61	90	75	105	2	408

226
182  
408

The number of cases at the end of 1923 was four less than the number at the end of 1922.

The following are particulars of cases which have left the town during 1923 :—

	MALES.			FEMALES.		Total.
	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	
Notified Cases—						
Pulmonary ..	9	5	12	10	9	45
Non-Pulmonary	4	10	—	8	10	32
Cases not Notified—						
Pulmonary ..	1	2	2	—	1	6
Non-Pulmonary	—	—	1	—	—	1
Total .. ..	14	17	15	18	20	84

The following is a summary of the 48 cases which have been removed from the register of notifications during 1923 as cases in which the disease has been arrested :—

	MALES.			FEMALES.	
	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.
Notified Cases :—					
Pulmonary .. ..	7	2	—	3	1
Non-Pulmonary ..	2	11	1	2	15
Cases not notified—					
Pulmonary .. ..	2	—	—	—	1
Non-Pulmonary ..	—	—	—	1	—

## CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1923.

	Form "A."		Form "B."	
Left the town .. ..	..	53	1	
Fatal .. ..	..	24	—	
Duplicate notifications ..	..	15	—	
Died of other diseases ..	..	3	—	
Disease arrested .. ..	..	1	—	
Still on the register .. ..	..	120	4	
		—	—	
		216	5	
		—	—	

CASES NOTIFIED ON FORMS "A" AND "B" FROM THE  
1ST JANUARY, 1912, TO THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1923.

	Form "A."		Form "B."	
Left the town .. ..	..	410	16	
*Fatal .. ..	..	562	5	
Duplicate notifications ..	..	60	10	
Died of other diseases ..	..	10	—	
Disease arrested .. ..	..	109	37	
Not traceable .. ..	..	62	1	
Still on the register .. ..	..	378	30	
		—	—	
Total notifications ..	..	1591	99	
		—	—	

\*NOTE.—Some of the cases marked in the register as "Fatal" may have died from diseases other than Tuberculosis.



## DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1923.

The following are particulars of tuberculous persons who have died during 1923 :—

	MALES.			FEMALES.		Total.
	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	
Notified Cases—						
Pulmonary    ..	<i>a</i> 12	8	5	<i>b</i> 9	<i>c</i> 12	46
Non-Pulmonary	—	<i>d</i> 4	—	<i>e</i> 2	—	6
Cases not Notified—						
Pulmonary    ..	<i>f</i> 2	<i>g</i> 3	—	—	—	5
Non-Pulmonary	—	—	—	1	—	1
Total .. ..	14	15	5	12	12	58

## NOTE.—

*a* 1 case died of (1) Chronic Bronchitis, (2) Dilatation of Heart.

*b* 2 Eastbourne cases died away from the town.

*c* 1 case died of (1) Sarcoma of Mysentery, (2) Asthenia.

*d* 1 case died of (1) Bacillus Coli Infection (hand and foot),  
(2) Heart Failure.

*e* 1 case died of (1) Appendicitis, (2) Peritonitis.

*f* 2 Eastbourne cases died away from the town.

*g* 3 Eastbourne cases died away from the town.

Seven of the deaths in Eastbourne of notified tuberculosis were cases of visitors, all pulmonary. Excluding these and including the deaths from tuberculosis of Eastbourne persons temporarily out of the Borough, there was a total of 47 deaths: Males, 27; Females, 20. The death rates were as follows :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis    ..   0.70 per 1,000

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis   0.16 per 1,000

All forms of Tuberculosis    ..   0.87 per 1,000

The male death-rate from “Consumption” was 0.44 per 1,000 and the female 0.31 per 1,000. The Ex-service men’s deaths numbered 5.

The deaths in the previous ten years were as follows :—

		1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913
Pulmonary	...	33	53	31	44	52	52	46	50	41	39
Other forms	...	6	12	7	7	13	12	19	7	15	15
Total	...	39	65	38	51	65	64	65	57	56	54

### BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.

In the Laboratory 304 examinations of sputum were made :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
For Practitioners	.. 30	119	149
For Ministry of Pensions	23	71	94
For Hospital	.. .. 36	25	61

### INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT.

Owing to the possession by the Council of their own Hospital and the use of many other Institutions, there has been but a very small waiting list throughout the year. Occasionally, waiting for admission to any special Institution is unavoidable.

#### (a) GILDREDGE HOSPITAL. STATISTICS, 1923.

	MALES.			FEMALES.		Total.
	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	
In Hospital at end of 1922	7	*1	4	9	2	23
Admitted 1923 ..	18	4	5	12	16	55
Died .. ..	3	—	4	4	2	13
Discharged ..	14	2	5	12	10	43
In Hospital at end of 1923	8	3	—	5	6	22

\* Accepted by Ministry of Pensions as an ex-service admitted case during the year.

This Hospital is practically always full. It takes all varieties of cases, mostly advanced, and is strictly a Hospital and not a Sanatorium. Its accommodation is not always equal to Eastbourne requirements, but occasionally a bed is vacant.

The question of enlarging the Hospital has been considered by the Council during the year. It was decided not to add to the accommodation, it being found that there was an average waiting list of only three, and that sometimes one or two of the beds were not in use.

From April 1st, 1923, to March 31st, 1924, there were 8,091 patient days. The Hospital cost £3 0s. 7d. per head per week; deducting capital charges £2 14s. 7d. per week. The cost of food for patients and staff amounted to 12/10 each per week.

I submit a record of cases since the Hospital was opened.

#### GILDREDGE HOSPITAL.

Hospital opened. . . . . 27th July, 1914.

Date of admission of first patient. 29th July, 1914.

Number of admissions from the 29th

July, 1914, to the 31st December,

1923 . . . . . 635

Number of Patients:—

Males . . . . . 242

Females . . . . . 259

— 501

Number of patients admitted once only 398

Number of patients admitted twice .. 78

Number of patients admitted three times 20

Number of patients admitted four times 4

Number of patients admitted five times 1

— 501

#### HISTORY OF GILDREDGE HOSPITAL PATIENTS.

Died in the Hospital . . . . . 142

Died after discharge . . . . . 76

Still in the Hospital . . . . . 22

Away in Hospital or Sanatorium .. .. 6

Left the town .. .. .	94
Not traceable .. .. .	9
Admitted for observation only .. .. .	17
Children at School .. .. .	6
Children not at School .. .. .	2
Working or able to work .. .. .	71
Not working or not able to work .. .. .	41
Disease arrested (besides those working) .. .. .	15
	<hr/> 501 <hr/>

(b) OTHER INSTITUTIONS. (TREATMENT ARRANGED BY  
LOCAL AUTHORITY). STATISTICS, 1923.

	MALES.			FEMALES.		Total.
	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	
In Institutions at end of 1922	1	4	3	4	2	14
Admitted 1923 ..	4	4	4	7	3	22
Died .. .. .	—	—	—	1	—	1
Discharged ..	3	4	4	7	4	22
In Institutions at end of 1923	2	4	3	3	1	13



INSTITUTIONS RECEIVING EASTBOURNE PATIENTS  
DURING THE YEAR 1923.

Name of Institution.	In-patients at end of 1922.		Admitted during the year 1923.		Receiving treatment at end of 1923.	
	Males	Fe- males	Males	Fe- males	Males	Fe- males
Gildredge Hospital ..	12	11	27	28	11	11
Maltings Farm Sana- torium, Nayland	1	1	4	2	1	—
St. Vincent's Cripples' Home, Pinner	2	—	—	—	2	—
Wyton Sanatorium, Huntingdon	1	—	2	1	1	—
Lord Mayor Treloar's Home, Alton	1	2	—	—	—	—
King Edward VII. Sana- torium, Midhurst	—	1	—	—	—	—
Guardians' Institution, Eastbourne	1	1	5	6	1	1
Brompton Hospital, London	—	—	1	—	1	—
Brompton Hospital Sana- torium Frimley	1	—	—	—	1	—
Princess Alice Hospital, Eastbourne	—	—	7	5	—	—
St. Bartholomew's Hos- pital, London	—	—	—	1	—	—
Burrow Hill Sanatorium, Frimley	—	—	1	—	—	—
Metropolitan Convalescent Home, Cranbrook	—	1	1	—	—	—
St. Peter's Memorial Home, Woking	—	1	—	—	—	—
St. Columba's Hospital, Swiss Cottage, London	—	1	—	—	—	—
Crooksbury Sanatorium, Farnham	1	—	—	—	—	—
National Sanatorium, Benenden	1	—	—	—	—	—
Royal National Sana- torium, Bournemouth	1	—	—	—	—	—
East Anglian Children's Sanatorium, Nayland	—	—	—	2	—	1
Ministry of Pensions Hos- pital, Orpington	—	—	4	—	—	—
Napsbury Mental Hospital, St. Albans	—	—	—	1	—	—
Queen Mary's Hospital for Children, Carshalton	—	—	—	1	—	1

Name of Institution.	In-patients at end of 1922.		Admitted during the year 1923.		Receiving treatment at end of 1923.	
	Males	Fe- males	Males	Fe- males	Males	Fe- males
National Sanatorium, Ventnor	—	—	1	3	—	1
Preston Hall, Aylesford ..	—	—	1	—	1	—
Westminster Hospital, London	—	—	1	—	—	—
Grosvenor Sanatorium, Kent	—	—	—	1	—	—
Eversfield Chest Hospital, St. Leonards-on-Sea	—	—	—	2	—	1
Colindale Hospital, Hendon	—	—	1	—	—	—
Royal Sea Bathing Hos- pital, Margate	—	—	1	1	—	1
Children's Hospital for Treatment of Hip Dis- ease, Sevenoaks	—	—	1	—	1	—
The Infirmary, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells	—	—	1	—	1	—
Mundsley Sanatorium, Norfolk	—	—	1	—	—	—
Brighton County Mental Hospital	—	—	3	1	—	—
Claybury Mental Hospital	—	—	1	—	—	—
Kensington Consumption Hospital	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total .. ..	22	19	65	55	21	17

## TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

## TOWN HALL.

Males : Tuesdays, 11 a.m. ; Medical Officer, Dr. W. G. Willoughby. Females : Thursdays, 11.30 a.m. Special Evening, first Thursdays, 6 p.m., Medical Officer, Dr. W. Muir-Smith.

## CASES.

	MALES.			FEMALES.			Total.
	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	
New Cases ..	13	6	5	17	11	2	54
Old Cases ..	15	1	90	22	25	—	153
	28	7	95	39	36	2	207
130			77			207	

## ATTENDANCES.

	MALES.			FEMALES.			Total.
	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	In-sured.	Non-in-sured.	Ex-ser. (Ad-mitted).	
Number of attendances by new cases	20	16	12	38	24	4	114
Number of attendances by old cases	32	1	268	181	170	—	652
	52	17	280	219	194	4	766
349			417			766	

## SPECIAL PENSIONS CASES.

Cases referred by D.C.M.S., Brighton, 84, including 8 Officers and 2 Nurses. One Officer attended five times. Two Officers attended four times each. Three Officers attended three times each. One Officer attended twice. Two Nurses attended twice each.

## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS.

Made in connection with examinations at Clinic, 1923.

Treatment under own Doctor .. .. .	434
No Treatment .. .. .	14
Hospital or Sanatorium Treatment .. .. .	73
Dispensary Treatment .. .. .	404
Treatment combined with Training .. .. .	3
New Cases of Extra Nourishment .. .. .	32
Renewal Cases of Extra Nourishment .. .. .	216
Special Open-Air Treatment .. .. .	1
Total .. .. .	<hr/> 1177 <hr/>

## CERTIFICATES AND REPORTS.

To Eastbourne War Pensions Committee, 1923.

Reports regarding Ability or Inability to Work ..	196
Treatment combined with Training .. .. .	5
Special Pension Reports .. .. .	13
Approval of Special Appliance .. .. .	1
Total .. .. .	<hr/> 215 <hr/>

The following are particulars of the certificates furnished to the D.C.M.S., Brighton (in addition to the usual report on M.P.X. 9 T.), and the Local War Pensions Committee (including the certificates mentioned in the above Record), namely :

*Certificates furnished to D.C.M.S., Brighton—*

	Number.
Form M.S.D. 28 (b).—Treatment under own Doctor	28
Form M.S.D. 122.—Report by Tuberculosis Officer on a case of definite or suspected Tuberculosis .. .. .	74
Form M.P.O. 623.—Special pension report ..	2

*Certificates furnished to Local War Pensions Committee—*

Form M.S.D. 28 and 28 (a).—Treatment under own Doctor .. .. .	96
Form M.P.A. 36 T.O.—Special pension report ..	13
Form M.S.D. 81.—Treatment under own Doctor	63
Form M.S.D. 80.—Discharge from Hospital or Sanatorium .. .. .	12



	Number.
Form M.S.D. 81.—Hospital or Sanatorium Treatment .. .. .	6
Form M.S.D. 81.—Admission to Hospital or Sanatorium .. .. .	10
Form M.S.D. 28.—Hospital or Sanatorium Treatment .. .. .	4
Form M.S.D. 81.—Treatment combined with Training .. .. .	3
Form M.S.D. 118, Part III.—Treatment combined with Training .. .. .	3
Form M.S.D. 80.—Certificate of Death at Hospital or Sanatorium .. .. .	4
Form M.S.D. 49A.—Approval of Special Appliance	1
	<hr/>
Total .. .. .	319
	<hr/>

#### EXTRA NOURISHMENT.

Ex-service persons receive extra nourishment independently of the Council.

Council assistance :—

Four males and 12 females were receiving extra nourishment on the 31st December, 1922.

The amount of expenditure from 1st January to 31st December, 1923, has amounted to £89 9s. 9d., which is equivalent to £1 8s. 10d. per thousand of the population of the Borough per annum. The total number of persons assisted during this period was 42 and the number of orders issued, 293. The amount of expenditure permitted by the Ministry is £2 for every 1,000 of the population.

#### CHILDREN'S TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC.

THURSDAYS, 2.30 p.m.

MEDICAL OFFICER : Dr. E. H. B. COGHILL.

Attendances, 160 of 54 children. Old cases, 31 ; new cases, 23.

Suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 18, and from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 13. (Glands, 7 ; Hip, 1 ; Abdomen, 1 ; Spine, 2 ; Ears, 1 ; Knee, 1). The remainder were contacts for examination.

## INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT ARRANGED BY THE COUNCIL.

*Children under 16 years of age.*

	Males.	Females.
Receiving treatment at the end of 1922	3	2
Admissions during the year .. ..	3	3
Discharges during the year .. ..	3	4
Deaths in Institutions during the year	—	—
Receiving treatment at the end of 1923	3	1

## Institutions treating cases during 1923 :—

## Wyton Sanatorium, Huntingdon—

Males .. .. 3

Females .. .. 1

## East Anglian Children's Sanatorium, Nayland—

Females .. .. 2

Children's Hospital for treatment of Hip Disease,  
Sevenoaks—

Males .. .. 1

## Lord Mayor Treloar's Home, Alton—

Males .. .. 1

Females .. .. 2

## St. Vincent's Cripples' Home, Pinner—

Males .. .. 1

## Nature of cases treated :—

## Pulmonary—

Males .. .. 3

Females .. .. 3

## Non-Pulmonary—

Males .. .. 3

Females .. .. 2

Number of in-patient days, 1,750.

## EXTRA NOURISHMENT.

Eight cases (two males and six females) received 1,571 pints of milk during the year.

NOTE.—The particulars relating to the above cases of children are also included in the general tables referred to above.

## NURSES' VISITS.

Visits to Domiciliary cases, 932.

## GENERAL PARTICULARS.

The work is carried on in close co-operation with the other Hospitals and with the Clinics.

The Dispensary at the Town Hall is the centre from which the work is carried on.

Arrangements are made whereby the Tuberculosis Officer receives quarterly medical reports as to insured tuberculous persons.

The following up of doubtful cases is done by the Medical Officers and the Nurse, and contacts are examined at the Dispensary and in the Clinics.

Diagnosis was aided in some cases by the X-Rays. Dr. Donnellan assists occasionally in difficult throat cases.

Dr. Muir Smith has continued to use Tuberculin treatment in selected cases, and is well satisfied with his results.

Dental treatment at the local hospital is kindly carried out by Mr. Turner.

The local Surgical Aid Society has been of great assistance in helping to provide surgical apparatus. There has been no difficulty in this respect.

The want of suitable occupation for cases after leaving Sanatoria is badly felt locally. The general imperfection in respect of after-care schemes of the Country generally is reflected in Eastbourne.

No home shelters have been applied for. No special occupation locally is concerned with the incidence of Tuberculosis.

The Open-Air School is acting as a useful preventive of Tuberculosis. The numbers of children there have been increased to 75. No case of actual pulmonary tuberculosis is taken.

The special difficulties encountered are the want of satisfactory housing accommodation in some of the cases, the want of hospital accommodation for surgical tuberculosis.

and the want of suitable employment for tuberculous persons who could do a little work.

Special nursing in the homes is not provided by the Council. The Hospital deals with the worst cases and arrangements are made for the particular help required by each tuberculous person.

I submitted a special report to the Council on the suggestion that all Guardians' cases should be taken and none left at their Infirmary. This suggestion was negatived, owing to the difficulty of dealing with casuals, the fact that the Guardians' area is much larger than that of the Borough only and that there was no real necessity shown. The cases in the Guardians' Institution in the past three years averaged only between two and three.

I am particularly indebted to Mr. A. H. Hookham, of my staff, for his special work *re* Tuberculosis. It is by his work that I have been able to give so complete an account of the state of Tuberculosis in Eastbourne.

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## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Statutory Committee is a Sub-Committee of the Sanitary and Public Health Committee, and is composed of six members of that Committee, another Alderman of the Council, and two co-opted ladies. Councillor Miss Hudson is in the Chair of this Committee.

The Centre at which the work is co-ordinated is at the Town Hall.

(a) A MOTHERS' AND INFANTS' CLINIC is held at the Town Hall at 2 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Dr. E. H. B. Coghill is the medical attendant of the Clinic, and Miss R. Clark the Superintendent Nurse.

The work of the Clinic includes advice to mothers, and attention to minor ailments of infants and children under school age for which ordinary medical attention is rarely, if ever, obtained. The work is mainly preventive, and infraction of the work of medical practitioners is avoided. Cases are sometimes referred to them, and *vice versa*. Short demonstrations in such matters as washing and dressing infants are given. Light refreshments are provided by some ladies kindly interested in the Clinic. The infants are regularly weighed, and advice is given on matters concerning both infants and mothers.

The attendances at the Clinic in 1923 were 4111 of 752 children, 458 under two years of age, and 294 aged three and four years; the attendances in the previous year were 3,508; 60 mothers attended for advice on 134 occasions.

The staff at the Clinic included the Superintendent Nurse, Miss R. Clark, and Nurses Simmonds, Thomas and Forward. When Nurse Thomas left on October 24th, Nurse Curtis took on her Maternity and Child Welfare duties. These Nurses were also engaged in home visiting.

- (b) HOME VISITING.—The Borough is divided for this purpose into three districts, each having its own Nurse Visitor. The visits paid numbered 6,901, and were as follows :—to expectant mothers, 387 ; to infants under one year, 2,873 ; and to children aged one to five years, 3,641. The percentage of the births which took place in Eastbourne notified to the Medical Officer of Health in 1923 was 96.5. In the cases of 674 births, or 88.8% of the total number, visits were made. The Notification of Births Act enables the Nurses to make visits within two or three days of a birth.

The Department receives notice from the Maternity Home when maternity cases are discharged, and is thus able to keep in touch with the cases born in the Home.

- (c) ANTENATAL CLINICS.—(i.) At the Town Hall on Wednesdays and Fridays at 2 p.m., in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic. Number of attendances in 1923, 194 of 60 expectant mothers.

(ii.) At the Maternity Home, Wednesday afternoons, and as occasion demands.

Number of Clinics	..	..	..	59
Number of expectant mothers attending				115
Number of First Pregnancies	..	..	..	46
Number of Other Pregnancies	..	..	..	69
Number of Attendances	..	..	..	711
Number of Visits by general Practitioners to their patients at this Clinic				36

Practically all the cases were normal cases requiring only information on minor matters.

There were 22 abnormal cases, viz. :—

Contracted Pelvis	..	..	..	2
Albuminuria	..	..	..	12
Defective Teeth	..	..	..	7
Varicose Veins	..	..	..	1

(d) Food is distributed in the form of dried or new milk for nursing mothers and young children.

The various "Orders" of the Ministry of Health were carried out during the year. In connection with milk distribution, the scale of income adopted in accordance with Circular 185 of 31st March, 1921, was as follows :—

Number in Family.		Free Milk.		Milk at Half Cost.	
		s.	d.	s.	d.
1	..	7	0	..	8 0
2	..	7	0	..	8 0
3	..	7	0	..	8 0
4	..	6	6	..	7 6
5	..	6	6	..	7 6
6	..	6	6	..	7 6
7	..	6	0	..	7 0
8	..	6	0	..	7 0
9	..	6	0	..	7 0
10	..	5	6	..	6 6
11	..	5	6	..	6 6
12	..	5	6	..	6 6

Applicants for milk are required to fill up a form giving particulars of their income and rent paid. These forms are considered by a small Sub-Committee, including a member of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and milk granted in accordance with the above scale.

The milk is supplied under a Contract with a local firm.

The total amount for which orders were given was 7,173 pints, or an increase on the previous year of 2,315 pints. Great care had to be exercised to be sure that necessitous cases got the milk, and that, on the other hand, none was given in unnecessary cases. 88 families received milk in the following manner, some families having milk for two of the reasons set out :—

Expectant mothers	..	..	..	10
Nursing mothers	..	..	..	53
Infants	..	..	..	40

Amount allowed—One pint.

Average length of time allowed, 11.64 weeks.

Number receiving free—

Expectant mothers	..	..	..	8
Nursing mothers	..	..	..	47
Infants	..	..	..	36

Number receiving partly free—

Expectant mothers	..	..	..	3
Nursing mothers	..	..	..	6
Infants	..	..	..	4

*Dried Milk—*

Number receiving—

Infants	..	..	..	107
Nursing mothers	..	..	..	12
Number paying full cost price	..	..	..	92
Number paying part cost	..	..	..	5
Number receiving free	..	..	..	22

Dried Milk used.—“Ambrosia,” “Dorsella,” “Cow and Gate” and “Glaxo.”

(e) BOARDING-OUT.—One illegitimate infant was boarded-out by the Authority in its own home at a cost of 5/- per week for a period during the year. The opening of the Infants' Home has removed the necessity for general boarding-out of infants, which had become so difficult to arrange at reasonable cost.

(f) UNMARRIED MOTHERS.—Temporary homes were provided for five of these cases. The estimates were framed to allow provision to be made for five cases at any one time up to twelve months from the date of birth.

*Bell Hostel.*—The opening of this Hostel provided a local means of dealing with unmarried mothers. The premises are excellent for the purpose, and the Committee carries out most useful



work. During 1923, three confinements took place in the Hostel.

The charges were as follows :—25/- per week until the mothers went to work, then 20/- per week.

Of the three Municipal cases remaining in the Hostel on 1st January, 1923, one left at the expiration of twelve months from the date of admission, one at the expiration of nine months, and the third, an exceptional case of a very young mother, left the Home after a stay of two years and two months. One new case was sent in. The case transferred to the Day Servants' Hostel at Hove during last year left at the expiration of twelve months. There was thus one Municipal case in the Bell Hostel at the end of 1923.

In connection with these cases, after the mothers had left the Home, the Authority continued to contribute for a time, up to three months, towards the maintenance of the babies in three cases.

A small Committee was formed in 1920, linking the work of the Hostel, the Guardians and this Authority, so as to give a guiding hand to such cases from before "confinement" onwards. This lapsed for a time, but has been re-organised in 1923.

- (g) MUNICIPAL MATERNITY HOME, 9 UPPERTON ROAD.—This Home has continued to be a great success under the care of Miss Macintosh, the Matron. During the year, 17.6%, as compared with 13.3% in 1922, of all the births in the Borough took place there.

The Ante-Natal work at this Home, as shown above, is a very important development and increases the value of the Institution. Unfortunately the premises are too small for the work being done. The increase in numbers of inmates, in spite of the decrease in the total number of births in the town, shows that the Home is increasingly

popular. It has been a great relief to parents, especially owing to the present housing difficulties.

The statistical report is as follows :—

MATERNITY HOME.

MATERNITY CASES.

Return for year ending 31st December, 1923.

1. Total number of cases admitted, 134.
2. Average duration of stay, 17 days.
3. Number of cases delivered by—
  - (a) Midwives, 91.
  - (b) Doctors, 41.
4. Number of cases in which medical assistance was sought by the midwife, with reasons for requiring assistance :—

(a) *Ante-Natal*—

Albuminuria .. .. .	12
Contracted Pelvis .. .. .	2
Varicose Veins .. .. .	1
Defective Teeth .. .. .	7
Minor Ailments .. .. .	7
Venereal Disease .. .. .	5

— 34

(These were cases to be admitted to the Home for Labour and were seen by the Assistant Medical Officer of Health at the request of the Matron).

(b) *During Labour*—

Breech Presentation .. .. .	1
Malpresentation .. .. .	1
Cracking Perineum .. .. .	1
Foetal Distress .. .. .	2
Transverse Tie .. .. .	1
Rise of Pulse Rate .. .. .	1
Premature Labour .. .. .	1
Prolapsed Cord .. .. .	1
Obstructed Labour .. .. .	1

— 10

(c) *After Labour*—

Post Partum Hæmorrhage .. .. .	1
Ruptured Perineum .. .. .	2
Rise of Temperature .. .. .	1

— 4

(d) *For Infant*—

Spina Bifida .. .. .	1
Inflammation of Eyes .. .. .	1

— 2

— 50

5. Number of cases notified as puerperal sepsis with result of treatment in each case, Nil.
6. Number of cases in which temperature rose above 100.4 for 24 hours, with rise of pulse rate, 1.
7. Number of cases notified as ophthalmia neonatorum, with result of treatment in each case, Nil.

8. Number of cases of "inflammation of the eyes," however slight, 1.
9. Number of infants not entirely breast fed while in the Institution, with reasons why they were not breast fed, 2. (a) Mother had heart disease; (b) Insufficient milk.
10. Number of maternal deaths, with causes, Nil.
11. Number of foetal deaths (still-born or within 10 days of birth) and their causes, and the results of the post-mortem examination, if obtainable :—

Still-born	..	..	..	..	3
Prematurity	..	..	..	..	4
Spina Bifida	..	..	..	..	1
Asthenia	..	..	..	..	1
					—
Total	..	..	..	..	9
					—

No. of cases remaining in the Home on 31st December, 1923, 4.

The infant mortality rate for the first fortnight after birth in the Home was 44.7 % per 1,000 births.

The Home has been sanctioned as a Training Centre for Midwives, and particulars as to this branch of the work are as follows :—Two Nurses after training sat for and obtained their C.M.B. Certificates. Three other resident pupils were taken and are receiving their tuition.

For ante-natal work see section (c).

The patients are attended by their own Medical Attendant if they wish; otherwise by the Matron and Staff.

In one case the Caesarian operation was performed successfully as regards both mother and infant.

The charge for patients is £2 2s. per week and, while waiting in the Home for confinement, 3/6 and 5/- per day.

In the cases of the 134 mothers admitted, full charges were paid in 105 cases, part charges were paid in 27 cases and in two instances no part of the charges were paid.

(h) INFANTS' HOME, 9 UPPERTON ROAD.—Matron: Miss C. B. Macintosh. Statistics as to this useful Institution are as follows :—

## INFANTS' HOME.

Return for year ending 31st December, 1923.

## 1. Number of cases admitted :—

Born in the Home	..	..	..	134
Admitted Infants	..	..	..	32
Total	..	..	..	166

## 2. Average duration of stay, 37 days.

## 3. Reasons for admission, giving number of cases under each heading :—

Born in the Home	..	..	..	134
Malnutrition	..	..	..	6
Illness of Mother	..	..	..	2
Circumcision	..	..	..	1
Operation to Nose	..	..	..	1
Observation	..	..	..	2
Pneumonia	..	..	..	1
Boarded-out	..	..	..	18
For regulating feeds	..	..	..	1
				166

## 4. Number of cases discharged :—

(a) In good health	..	..	..	157
(b) Improved	..	..	..	3
(c) No improvement	..	..	..	1
				161

## 5. Number of cases of infectious disease, with brief account of any epidemic which has occurred, Nil.

## 6. Number of deaths, giving date and cause of death, and period of residence :—

Date.	Cause of Death.	Period of Residence.
1923.		
8th Mar.	Spina Bifida—Convulsions	9 days.
12th Mar.	Prematurity	3 days.
10th May (Triplets)—		
	Debility—Premature Birth	1 hour.
	Debility—Premature Birth	2 hours.
	Debility—Premature Birth	3 hours.
27th Oct.	Asthenia, result of over normal period of gestation	2 hours.
2nd Jan.	Still-born	—
29th April	Still-born	—
10th July	Still-born	—

(NOTE.—All the above babies born in the Home).

## 7. Number discharged on account of illness, with the nature of the illness, infectious or otherwise, and the result of treatment elsewhere :—

Pneumonia, 1. This case was suffering from Pneumonia when admitted, and was transferred to the Princess Alice Memorial Hospital, where it is still under treatment.



## SUMMARY.

			Babies born in the Home.	Admitted Infants.	
In Home, 1st January, 1923	..		3	16	
Admitted since	..	..	134	32	
			—	137	48
Discharged—					
In good health	..	..	125	32	
Improved	..	..	—	3	
No improvement	..	..	—	1	
			—	—	
			125	36	
Died..	..	..	6	—	
Still Births	..	..	3	—	
			—	134	36
			—	—	
Remaining in Home, 31st December			3	12	
			—	—	

Three resident probationers were being trained during the year in the care and management of infants. In connection with this part of the Institution two Courses of Lectures and training in the care of infants were given. Beside the staff, 22 persons attended the Courses. Examinations were held, 17 Certificates being awarded.

- (i) MUNICIPAL MIDWIFE.—Miss L. M. Thomas acted at the Centre as Municipal Midwife up to the 23rd October, and attended 60 cases, as compared with a total of 52 cases for the whole of the year 1922. The charge for the services of the Municipal Midwife is 25/-. Full payment was made in 44 of these cases. The following are particulars of the cases attended :—

	Nurse Thomas.	Nurse Shelton	Total.
Number of cases attended	.. 60	7	67
Number paying full charge	.. 44	5	49
Number paying part charge	.. 10	1	11
Number paying nil	.. .. 6	1	7
Number legitimate	.. .. 59	7	66
Number illegitimate	.. .. 1	—	1
Number of mothers still alive	60	7	67
Number of infants still alive..	60	7	67
Still-born, Nil ; Premature, 1.			

Since Miss Thomas's resignation, the work has been transferred to and carried on from the Maternity Home, Miss A. Shelton having been appointed Municipal Midwife. She attended seven cases up to December 31st, 1923, making a total of 67 for the year. No mothers or children died.

The Maternity Home and Municipal Midwife births amounted in 1923 to 201 of the total 744 births registered, or 27  $\frac{1}{4}$  .

- (j) MIDWIVES ACT, 1902.—Fifteen registered midwives (two untrained) gave notice of their intention to practise during 1923. Of these, eight were practising in Institutions, and only five practised regularly outside Institutions. They are visited by the Superintendent Nurse, herself a qualified midwife, and by the Medical Officers when necessary. The visits paid by the Superintendent Nurse during the year numbered 26.

Midwives attended 46.9% of the total births during 1923.

Medical assistance was sought, apart from Maternity Home cases, by midwives in 12 cases during 1923, viz., for the mother, 9 cases; and for the infant, 3 cases.

For the mother—

Abnormal labour	..	..	..	1
Delayed labour	..	..	..	2
Ante-partum hæmorrhage	..	..	..	2
Ruptured perineum	..	..	..	2
Adherent placenta	..	..	..	1
Rise of temperature	..	..	..	1

For the infant—

Feebleness	..	..	..	1
Convulsions	..	..	..	1
Hæmorrhage	..	..	..	1

The scale of fees arranged by the Ministry of Health was adhered to and in all cases refunded amounts were obtained from the patients.

There were no complaints against midwives during the year.

Considerable trouble has been experienced in regard to certain unqualified women attending labour cases without medical attendance. The proviso in the Act as to "habitually" and also that as to "for gain" makes legal action difficult. Steps have been taken as regards these women and warnings issued. Evidence is gradually accumulating, which will make legal action likely to succeed if the practice continues.

(k) HOME HELP.—The Home Help (Mrs. Hicks) attended 51 cases during the year, viz., 29 homes for household duties in maternity cases and 22 homes for ordinary relief work (for expectant or nursing mothers or during illness of children). Her salary is 35/- per week. Very useful work has been accomplished.

(l) HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.—\*The Borough Hospital provides accommodation for Puerperal Fever, Ophthalmia, Measles and other infectious ailments.

The Princess Alice Memorial Hospital provides for abnormal confinements.

\*The Maternity Home at 9 Upperton Road provides for normal confinements in married women only.

\*The Infants' Home at the same address provides for babies with certain ailments, such as malnutrition, which can only with difficulty and imperfectly be dealt with in the homes.

\* Municipal Hospitals.

The Bell Hostel, Salehurst Road, provides for unmarried mothers and their infants.

(m) CRECHE.—The Christ Church Creche in Rylstone Road for 16 children is subsidised by the Local Authority up to £300 per annum. Councillor Miss Hudson represents the Authority on the

Committee. The Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Medical Officer of Health are the medical advisers.

- (n) DENTAL WORK.—Mothers (prospective and actual) are occasionally assisted as regards dental work and dentures. The following dental assistance was given in 1923 :—

Mothers receiving dentures .. ..	7
Mothers paying part cost .. ..	4
Mothers receiving denture free .. ..	3

In addition, extractions were made in one case, the mother paying part cost.

- (o) STAFF.—Three part-time nurses, who also assist in school medical work, and one whole-time midwife nurse.

The clerical work is carried out by the clerical staff of the Public Health Department.

- (p) OPHTHALMIA.—Five cases, all in legitimate children. No blindness. Three in midwives' practice. See "Infectious Diseases."

- (q) HAMPDEN PARK DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION.—Owing to the comparatively isolated nature of this part of the Borough, the Local Authority has agreed with the Association for the use of its nurse in some Maternity and Child Welfare cases in that district. A retaining contribution of £10 10s. per annum is paid to the Association.

The following figures for 1923 show the extent of the work of the Association:—

Number of Maternity cases .. ..	7
Number of visits to such cases .. ..	310
Number of cases of children under 5 ..	16
Number of visits to such cases .. ..	183
Number of cases of children of school age	7
Number of visits to such cases .. ..	45

- (r) VOLUNTARY ASSISTANCE.—Some ladies give practical help at the Clinics by assisting in social



enquiries and help, and by helping to provide light refreshments for the mothers.

- (s) FINANCE.—The total cost of the Maternity and Child Welfare Department for the year ending 31st March, 1924, was £5,212, with estimated income of £1,908, net balance £3,304,
- (t) MASSAGE TREATMENT.—Miss MacKern has given this treatment in one case with good results. Her Clinic is definitely established at the Red House, Beamsley Road, the bulk of the cases being of children beyond the age included in this section of the Report.
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With this Section should be read the Infant Mortality part of the Report.

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## SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRICT.

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### SANITARY INSPECTORS.

The staff of three Sanitary Inspectors has been unchanged.

A nominal appointment, unpaid, of an Assistant Sanitary Inspector was made in August, 1923, to enable the Inspector of the N.S.P.C.A. to enter slaughter houses to see the methods of killing used.

The Sanitary Inspection work is detailed in other parts of this Report ; a summary of the work as regards Factories and Workshops has also been given. It is not possible to tabulate all the activities of this Department.

### NURSING ARRANGEMENTS.

The Local Authority had for most of the year five Health Visitors whose duties were as follows :—One Superintendent who is Inspector of Midwives and attends at Clinics ; three had a district each for Maternity and Child Welfare Work, and for School Medical Work and also assisted at Clinics. One of these three was also Municipal Midwife and one Assistant Municipal Midwife. The fifth was specially a Tuberculosis Visitor and attends the Tuberculosis Clinics, her remaining time being spent at School Medical Work.

Towards the close of 1923 the staff was re-arranged as follows :—On the resignation of the Municipal Midwife, a new Nurse was appointed for District School Medical and Maternity and Child Welfare work. The New Municipal Midwife was attached to and resident at the Maternity Home. The duties of the others remained as before.

Home nursing is carried out by Voluntary Associations, particularly the Nurses of the Parish Churches. No payment is made to these by the Local Authority, with the exception of the Hampden Park District Nursing Association, to which a contribution of ten guineas annually is paid.

The local Associations kindly co-operate with the Staff of the Authority when necessary.

## HOSPITALS.

## 1. MUNICIPAL.

The Hospitals under the Authority are as follows :—

1. Isolation Hospital (Sanatorium), 62 beds for infectious ailments in seven blocks of 14, 14, 12, 7, 7, 4 and 4 beds respectively. The table on page 41 shows to what extensive use this Hospital is put.
2. Small Pox Hospital, 18 beds, not used since 1902, but kept in readiness.
3. Acacia Villa for isolation during disinfection of houses, 6 beds.

The Medical Officer of Health is personally the Medical Officer of these Hospitals.

4. Tuberculosis Hospital, 24 beds, 12 for Males and 12 for Females ; Medical Officer : Dr. W. Muir Smith.
5. Maternity and Child Welfare Hospital, 10 maternity beds, 18 infants' beds ; Medical Officers : Dr. E. H. B. Coghill and private Practitioners.

The Medical Officer of Health is the administrative Officer of these Hospitals under the Sanitary and Public Health Committee.

Their use has been described in the Report.

## 2. OTHERS.

1. Princess Alice Memorial Hospital—General—70 beds.
2. Leaf Hospital (Homœopathic), 15 beds, and out-patients.
3. Ophthalmic Hospital, 6 beds, and out-patients.
4. All Saints' Convalescent Home.
5. Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, 11 beds and out-patients.
6. Guardians' Institution (Infirmary).

The Bell Hostel and Creche are referred to in the Maternity and Child Welfare section of this Report.

The amount of Poor Law Relief expended for the year ending September 30th, 1923, was £10,107 11s. 11d. (which included relief to Unemployed), as compared with £14,847 4s. 3d. for the year ending 30th September, 1922. In addition, the Guardians paid £2,147 11s. 6d. in wages on relief work on their agricultural ground.

## BATHS.

## SEASIDE BATHS.

These were opened in 1903. There are six baths for men and six for women.

The numbers using them in 1923 were: men, 16,664; women, 12,936; children, 506; total, 30,106, a decrease of 901 on the 1922 figures.

The largest number using the baths in one year was 34,600 in 1918. This number included many service men and women. The largest pre-war number was 18,982 in 1913.

Owing to the large number of those who have to wait their turn, especially on Friday and Saturday evenings, arrangements are being made to take over adjoining property in March, 1924, and extend the number of baths.

## OLD TOWN BATHS.

These were opened in 1905. There are 12 baths for men and 3 for women.

The swimming bath is 60ft. long by 20ft. wide, and varies in depth from 3ft. 6in. to 6ft. 6in.

It has been arranged to allow mixed bathing if suitable undressing and dressing accommodation can be made, but this is a difficult matter.

Number of swimming baths:—

Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
4655	2225	7378	6229	20487

Season tickets and sale of book tickets increased these numbers to 29,107.

The previous largest number was 22,892 in 1920.

Number of ordinary baths:—

Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
12588	7287	988	20863

The largest number previously was 20,584 in 1921.

During 1923, 86 boys and 60 girls of the Elementary Schools who had learned to swim during the year received Certificates. The 1923 figures are the highest recorded. The increase in the use of the swimming bath, particularly by School children, is remarkable.



The cost of the baths was as follows for the year ending 31st March, 1923 :—

	Income.	Expenditure.	Deficit.	Capital Charges (in addition).
Seaside	£487	£913	£426	£62
Old Town	£768	£1290	£522	£256

### MUNICIPAL CLEANSING STATION.

One bath and disinfecter is provided. It was used by 21 persons during 1923, mainly verminous children.

### THE LOCAL ACTS AND ADOPTIVE ACTS

in force in the district are as follows :—

Eastbourne Improvement Acts, 1879 and 1885.

Eastbourne Corporation Acts, 1902 and 1911.

#### ADOPTED ACTS.

Baths and Wash-houses Acts, 1846 to 1889.

Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, sections 1 to 4, 6, 7, 9, 12 to 16, and 18 to 24.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, Parts I., II., III., IV. and V.

Public Libraries Act, 1892.

Notification of Births Act, 1907.

\*Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, sections 17, 21, 22, 27 (temporary buildings for territorial force excepted), 28 and 33 of Part II., sections 35 (subject to first proviso to s. 92 of Public Health Act, 1875), 36, 37, and 46 of Part III., sections 52, 54, 55, 57, 58, 59 (except as to libraries outside the district), 60, 62, 63, 64, 65 and 68 of Part IV., Part V., Part VI., Part VII., secs. 81, 85 and 86, of Part IX., and secs. 92, 93, 94 and 95 of Part X.

The Health Resorts and Watering Places Act, 1921.

These are for the most part administered by the Sanitary Authority through the Public Health Department.

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\* The following provisions of the Eastbourne Improvement Act, 1885, are repealed by the Order applying this Act, viz. :—Sect. 90 and Sect. 92 so far as the latter relates to any purpose of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

## CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.

The tables on page 40 show the work done in 1923.

Chemical and Bacteriological examinations of water were made by the Borough Analyst, and alternately by the Water Company's Analyst, Mr. Burgess.

Ordinary Diphtheria and Tuberculosis Bacteriology is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and the Assistant Medical Officer of Health. Other Bacteriology is sent to the Clinical Research Association, or to Dr. Shera.

Wassermann examinations were made at the Pathological Department, Princess Alice Hospital, Eastbourne, by Dr. A. G. Shera, the Medical Attendant of the Venereal Diseases Clinic, who was appointed to carry out this work on 1st May, 1922.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Local Police Authority has two motor ambulances for general purposes, and there is also a motor ambulance at the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

## CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

(a) Provided by the Local Authority :—

At the Town Hall—

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Tuberculosis.

Dental.

School Medical—Ophthalmic, etc.

Venereal Diseases.

At the Maternity Home—Ante-Natal.

(b) Provided by others :—

At the Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, Cavendish Place—Adenoid Clinic.

At the Leaf Hospital, Marine Road—Adenoid Cases.

At the Creche, Rylstone Road—Day Nursery.

At the Red House, Beamsley Road. Massage and Movement Clinic.

## RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Special Officer : Mr. E. G. SPEARS, Sanitary Inspector.

Fifty-eight infested premises were dealt with during the year, entailing a large number of visits.

Poisoning, especially by Phosphorus or Arsenic, has been found to be the most satisfactory method of extermination, and the majority of the premises have been cleared.

An arrangement is in force whereby the sewer men devote a day in each month to the laying of poison baits in the sewers, with good results.

Attention has also been given to the Hampden Park tip, and the Corporation allotments.

A man was engaged during November in the Marsh District, a large number of rats being destroyed.

The public continue to avail themselves of the advice and assistance which is readily given by the responsible Officer.

The usual arrangements were also made for the local observance of National Rat Week held in November.

No prosecutions took place under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act.

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## HOUSING.

The recent publication of local housing details as existing at the time of the Census of June 19th–20th, 1921, gives the opportunity of reporting the position in Eastbourne as to the housing of its population, and also of comparing the position in 1921 with that of 1911.

The following were the facts at the recent Census and proportionately they have not changed much since :—

Buildings containing dwellings .. .. .	10,083
Houses vacant on Census night (including temporary absence of occupier) .. .. .	315
Population .. .. .	62,028
Persons per occupied dwelling .. .. .	6.3
Buildings in course of erection .. .. .	30

The population was spread over thus :—

In undivided private houses .. .. .	48,037
In structurally divided private houses .. .. .	140
In blocks of flats, tenements, etc. .. .. .	1,963
In shops .. .. .	3,007
Others (hotels, institutions, etc.) .. .. .	8,881
	62,028

Dwellings occupied by one private family .. .. .	7,721
Dwellings occupied by two private families .. .. .	1,304
Dwellings occupied by three or more private families .. .. .	390

Where more than one family were in the same house :—

	House of			
	1–3 rooms.	4–5 rooms.	6–8 rooms.	9 rooms and over.
Two families .. .. .	9	503	636	156
Three or more families .. .. .	—	52	171	167

As regards “rooms per person,” in 1921, 2,079 persons were living with more than two persons to a room, the number in 1911, when one house in every twenty-five in Eastbourne was vacant, was 1,915. The increase in the ten years was 164 only.



The percentage of persons thus housed was 4.4 in 1921, and 4.3 in 1911.

On the basis of the England and Wales standard at the time of the Census, Eastbourne had a "surplus" of 926 rooms, or 1.9%, which was very low compared with that of the County generally, namely 6%, but high compared with Brighton, which had a "deficiency" of 5,630 rooms, or 4.1%. Hastings had a surplus of 3,003 rooms.

			1921.	1911.
Rooms per person	..	..	1.15	1.16
Persons per family	..	..	4.04	4.34
Families per dwelling	..	..	1.23	—
Rooms per dwelling	..	..	6.35	—

The increase in dwellings in the ten years was 1,043, or 11.4%. (Brighton, 5.3% ; Hastings, 7.1%).

The number of families per house, and particularly persons per room, are indices as to over-crowding, and it is noteworthy that there were only 164 more persons living more than two in a room in 1921 than there were in 1911, when 4% of the houses were unoccupied.

The conditions in 1921 were as shown in the following table :—

Persons in Family.	Number of families occupying the following number of rooms.							
	1	2	3	4	5	6-7	8-9	Over 10
1 ..	380	178	89	67	50	48	24	12
2 ..	231	503	366	264	312	359	115	75
3 ..	108	309	352	390	504	438	172	121
4 ..	21	115	277	345	542	439	166	160
5 ..	4	46	164	208	500	317	118	150
6 ..	—	10	81	151	367	248	99	119
7 ..	—	4	35	96	256	126	52	73
8 ..	—	4	25	41	178	92	29	63
9 ..	—	—	11	24	88	54	15	36
10 ..	—	—	5	9	43	32	10	21
11 ..	—	—	—	1	11	13	4	13
12 ..	—	—	—	—	9	5	2	8
13 ..	—	—	—	1	4	4	—	5
14 ..	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	1
15 & over	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5
Total families	744	1169	1405	1597	2866	2177	806	862

The above table applies to the population in private families, and omits that of Institutions.

Compared with the conditions in 1911, it shows on analysis :—

*Families living in one room* (excluding single persons)—

1921.—Families, 364. Population, 890.

1911.—Families, 175. Population, 424.

*Families living in two rooms* (excluding two each in number)—

1921.—Families, 488. Population, 1,737.

1911.—Families, 344. Population, 1,308.

*Families living in three rooms* (excluding three each in number)—

1921.—Families, 598. Population, 3,008.

1911.—Families, 438. Population, 2,344.

*Families living in four rooms* (excluding four each in number)---

1921.—Families, 531. Population, 3,277.

1911.—Families, 470. Population, 2,926.

As regards larger tenements, the number of rooms makes over-crowding less felt, but in addition to the above, another 100 families in the larger tenements may be considered over-crowded.

I have made this analysis with a view to its use as an index as to the extent of over-crowding, and with a view to comparing the present conditions with those of 1911, when houses were available. These 1911 figures show that even if houses are available, financial or other considerations will cause a proportion of the population to remain on the border line of over-crowding, or even over-crowded, if they escape the notice of those responsible for seeing there is no over-crowding.

According to this table of persons living in small tenements :—

364 families should vacate their present one room tenements ;

488 families should vacate their present two room tenements ;

598 families should vacate their present three room tenements ;

531 families should vacate their present four room tenements.

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1,981

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Approximately 100 other families in larger tenements are too crowded.

These 1,981 families of the 1921 Census compare with 1,427 of 1911, so that the increase in the ten years of families in small tenements over-crowded is 554.

It must be remembered if these 1,981 families were accommodated elsewhere, an equal number of tenements would be vacated and those with more rooms would absorb many of the families from the smaller tenements. It must not be assumed that 1,981 new tenements would be required.

For example, 231 of the two room tenements, 417 of the three room tenements, and 413 of the four room tenements could be re-occupied by small families and the removal of one or more families from a house jointly occupied would relieve the over-crowding of the remaining occupiers.

The Census return shows that even when houses were available as in 1911, about three-quarters of the 1921 numbers remained for various reasons in tenements that did not contain sufficient rooms.

Assuming a similar proportion of the above families of the year 1921 would still by choice remain as they are, 255 new tenements would provide sufficient accommodation if there were an accurate re-distribution of the population, as far as occupants of smaller tenements are concerned. This distribution is obviously impossible.

If all the persons now living in too crowded conditions would move, about 1,000 tenements are required, many of them of two or three rooms. Practically it has been found, as in 1911, that a large proportion could, or would, not accept the better conditions.

The arrears of rent, as shown in the case of the existing Corporation houses, would result, in the case of private ownership, in many of the tenants being displaced.

From these figures, it would seem that about 500 houses would enable the people to be housed as well as in 1911 ; this, however, is not a good standard. The population is increasing yearly, and the 137 hut tenements have to be replaced by proper housing conditions, so that at least 700 houses are really necessary.



The number of houses required, as shown by the applications in the Public Health Department, may be tabled as follows :—

Number of	Rooms now occupied.						Total.
	6.	5	4.	3.	2.	1.	
6 & over	—	—	1	8	3	—	12
5 ..	—	—	4	6	1	—	11
4 ..	—	—	3	7	3	5	18
3 ..	1	3	6	14	20	11	55
2 ..	—	—	6	15	64	49	134
1 ..	—	1	6	17	83	110	217
Total ..	1	4	26	67	174	175	447
Applicants having no children .. .. .							177
Applicants having whole house .. .. .							141
Non-residents .. .. .							25
Total applications received .. .. .							790

Of these families applying, 141 already occupy whole houses and 25 are not living in the Borough.

If the families applying were all provided for, 141 houses would be vacated for other persons and 98 tenements of three rooms and over would be vacated, leaving a balance of 526 houses required, which, together with the 137 hut tenements occupied, amounts to 663 houses.

Another addition, viz., to replace 25 houses and 12 tenements in huts other than those of the Council, which should be closed as insanitary, makes the total number apparently required 700.

From these figures, as from those of the Census, 700 houses would apparently meet present requirements, but not allow choice of houses, nor provide for increase of population.

Between the two last Census records, Eastbourne has added 9,486 to its population and 1,049 to its buildings containing dwellings.

## GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS.

The average number of houses built annually for the five years before the War was 103, and for the preceding five years, 132.

During 1923, certificates were issued for occupation of 102 new houses built in the usual circumstances, and in addition 30 Municipal houses were completed.

The houses finished during and since the War numbered 643, as follows :—

1914 .. .. .	92	
1915 .. .. .	43	
1916 .. .. .	24	
1917 .. .. .	1	
1918 .. .. .	8	
1919 .. .. .	—	
1920 .. .. .	22	
1921 .. .. .	147	(Council houses, 120)
1922 .. .. .	44	(Council houses, 10)
1923 .. .. .	102	(Council houses, 30)

The number of persons per occupied house at the Census of 1921 was 6.3 ; in 1911, 5.8.

As regards the hut tenements, their condition is not satisfactory as permanent residences, and it will be better when they can be abandoned. They continue to fill a gap as regards housing, which is serious, but should, I consider, be abandoned as they become gradually vacant.

Unsatisfactory as they are, the occupants have been only too glad to get them, and there are at present 204 families awaiting a chance to get one.

The housing measures taken by the Authority included a temporary and permanent scheme.

## (a) TEMPORARY.

Provision of hut tenements in a vacated Army Camp at Victoria Drive. The first of these was occupied on May 26th, 1919. The highest number occupied was 188 tenements. A number of huts have had to be removed for the

progress of the permanent building scheme on the same site, and at the end of 1923 the figures were as follows :—

Number of tenements .. .. .	137
Number of families living in hutments	136
Population .. .. .	612
Children of school age .. .. .	130
Children under school age .. .. .	155

Nearly all the huts are divided into two tenements of two, three or four rooms.

#### (b) PERMANENT.

The first and completed part of the Municipal Housing Scheme provided 178 houses, 110 at the Archery and 68 at Victoria Drive. The last of these was occupied on August 15th, 1921.

The second part provided for 33 additional houses at Victoria Drive, 17 parlour and 16 non-parlour houses. The first of these was occupied on 25th December, 1922, the last on the 14th May, 1923. Total, 211.

The third part of the Municipal Housing Scheme provides for the erection of an additional 100 houses at Victoria Drive, and these were commenced on 21st August, 1923.

Seven police dwellings are to be constructed and there are also four Municipal dwellings in connection with small holdings.

The system of allotment of houses to applicants primarily took into consideration the number of children and the conditions under which the applicants were living. Other conditions were length of residence in Eastbourne and length of War Service.

The rents of the Municipal houses are as follows :—

Parlour Houses.—18s. 4d. weekly.

Non-Parlour Houses.—14s. 8d. weekly.

#### OVER-CROWDING.

The provision of huts enabled the Department to deal with the worst cases of over-crowding. Others exist which cannot yet be dealt with. There were cases so very bad that steps had to be taken by the Authority, but no legal

proceedings were taken. Some re-arrangements of habitation were carried out at the suggestion of the Sanitary Inspectors.

### FITNESS OF HOUSES.

The general standard of housing is good, structurally. Materials and labour having been available, repairs are going on and houses kept up to a habitable condition.

The general character of defects is want of repair, causing dampness, and of painting and decoration mainly, for the Inspectors have managed to get serious nuisances remedied for the most part. A serious condition is the dampness of many houses in the "Marsh" district due to the proximity to the floors, of the ground water.

The list of notices issued indicates the extent of the housing work of the Sanitary Staff.

### UNHEALTHY AREA.

No action can be taken as regards this area of 12 houses until accommodation is available elsewhere. The approximate population is 43. The area includes Nos. 1 to 8 Southwark Cottages and 244 to 250 Seaside.

In addition the following 13 houses are unfit for habitation and irreparable : Sidley Mews, Two tenements ; 1 and 2 Victoria Garage, Seven tenements ; Cavendish Place Garage, Three tenements ; 60 Meads Street ; and the 12 Hutments at St. Anthony's Hill.

### BYE-LAWS.

There has been no difficulty with regard to these.

The Sanitary Inspectors carry out the housing duties in regard to existing houses, under the Medical Officer of Health, and the Sanitary and Public Health Committee.

### APPENDIX.

#### 1. Unfit dwelling houses.

Inspection. (1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	..	..	..	2190
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(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 ..	—
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .. ..	25
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.. .. .	382
2. Remedy of Defects without service of formal Notices.	
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .. ..	49
3. Action under Statutory Powers.	
(a) Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .. .. .	75
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit :—	
(a) By owners .. .. .	65
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .. .. .	—
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close .. ..	—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. ..	307

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied :—			
(a) By owners	..	..	277
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	..	..	1
(c) Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909 :—			
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders			—
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made			—
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit	..	..	—
(4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made			—
(5) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders			—

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### BLIND PERSONS.

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When the Blind Persons Act, 1920, became law the Council appointed a Statutory Committee to administer its provisions. This Committee includes six members of the Council and four co-opted members, one of the latter being nominated by the Board of Guardians.

The Committee's scheme approved by the Ministry was published in my report for 1921.

During 1923 the Committee's visitor has paid frequent visits to all cases except those who did not wish attention.

Of the 62 blind persons on the register at the end of 1922, two have permanently left Eastbourne, one has died, and one has been removed from the register as not being within the definition laid down of a "blind" person. Nine new cases have been added making a total of 67 in the following age groups :—

Age Group.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5 years .. ..	—	—	—
Between 5 and 15 .. ..	2	2	4
Between 15 and 25 .. ..	3	3	6
Between 25 and 65 .. ..	16	19	35
65 years and upwards ..	9	13	22
Totals .. ..	30	37	67

It is satisfactory to note the comparatively small number of young blind persons.

Of the 67 blind persons, 23 are totally blind, the remainder having a varying amount of sight in all cases insufficient to enable the persons concerned to earn a livelihood.

The present conditions as to occupation are :—

(a) Children under school age .. .. .	—
(b) Children of school age .. .. .	4

These are at :—

Public Elementary Schools (not totally blind) .. .. .	1
Blind School, Southsea .. .. .	2
Not at School (also otherwise defective) ..	1
(c) Persons of an age and condition for Institutional training—	
In Institutions .. .. .	2
(d) Persons receiving Home Instruction in—	
Chair Caning .. .. .	3
Basket Making .. .. .	2

During 1923 materials for basket making and chair caning were supplied in five cases.

Assistance with regard to clothing was given in three cases, and towards the expense of moving in one case.

The Local Committee keeps in touch with the Metropolitan and Adjacent Counties Association for the Blind.

The amount expended under the scheme for the year 1923 has been £80, and a provision of £90 has been made in the estimates for 1924.

In addition to the Statutory Committee which has been appointed under the Act, a Voluntary Committee was also re-formed in 1921 to look after the social interests of the blind and to give temporary assistance both monetary and otherwise, which would not be provided under the Act.

This Committee has undertaken individual social visiting and entertainments have been given.

At the Free Library there are books in Braille which are changed as required by the National Lending Library for the Blind in London. Of the Eastbourne blind, 20 can read Braille and arrangements can be made to teach others if required.



During the year the Council allowed 36 of the blind free 'bus tickets and free chair tickets for the Parade. Concert tickets for the Winter Concerts at Devonshire Park were also allowed for the attendance of eight blind persons who could not afford the admission prices.

Home training arrangements are not yet satisfactorily completed in the Home Counties. The Council has arranged to combine, if possible, with neighbouring districts for efficient home teaching. A blind teacher has given some basket making lessons to five persons.

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# **APPENDIX.**—CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING YEAR 1923 (Nett Deaths).

Causes of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents," whether occurring in or beyond the district.						
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Epidemic Influenza ... ..	4	—	—	—	—	2	2
Diarrhœa and Enteritis ... ..	3	1	1	—	—	—	1
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ... ..	38	—	—	—	8	30	—
Other Tubercular Diseases ... ..	9	—	1	2	1	5	—
Cancer, Malignant Disease ... ..	70	—	—	—	—	37	33
Bronchitis ... ..	38	2	1	—	—	7	28
Pneumonia ... ..	26	3	1	1	—	12	9
Pleurisy ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Premature Birth ... ..	8	8	—	—	—	—	—
Accidents ... ..	7	1	2	—	1	2	1
Suicides ... ..	16	—	—	—	—	13	3
Total of above ... ..	222	15	7	3	10	109	78
All other causes ... ..	302	13	8	2	4	86	189
All causes ... ..	524	28	15	5	14	195	267